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Socceroo bonanza



England captain Bryan Robson (right) with Steve Tasio. Robson ribbed Tasio about Australia's abysmal cricket form.

Top-class games, European tours

By PETER SCOTT

The Socceroos will play a minimum eight full internationals a season, tour Europe every second year and invite the European or South American champion to visit.

The Australian Soccer Federation has agreed to these conditions set by Frank Arok for his reappointment to the national coaching position on Friday.

So says Hungarian sports daily "Nepsport" in an interview with Arok, although we had been led to believe negotiations between the ASF and Arok were far from over.

It's certainly good news if it's all true. We'll know at the weekend.

Maybe, just maybe, the ASF is about to take the plunge and get politics out of Socceroo affairs.

The pointer to this rosy prospect is to be seen in Arok's pending appointment as the ASF's coaching and managerial supremo, in full charge of policy directions and personnel appointments of all our national squads, right down to under-16 level.

Of course, on numerous previous occasions people — and good people at that were put in charge only to realise soon enough that power was firmly entrenched in Sir Arthur George's office. But I am optimistic for the future, and for one very good reason. Knowing Arok, I believe that while he is enough of a diplomat to get on with anyone if need be, he is too smart a bloke to sign on the dotted line without being assured of full powers.

Perhaps when Arok does take over he may come up with a solution to the growing haemorrhaging of our Socceroo talent to overseas clubs.

No-one can begrudge our guys taking contracts with clubs such as Eintracht Frankfurt. But the time has arrived to do something when Oscar Crino can find a four-month stint in Cyprus, of all places, more enticing than playing for our NSW team.

With his help and our team's arduous World Cup effort, Arok still has regrets, and it is a familiar one, according to his interview with "Nepsport".

"If it was up to me we would have played the Scots during the afternoon in Brisbane or Sydney, so they would have to face heat stroke. But, instead, it was put on at night in Melbourne. In spite of rough luck with the refereeing in Glasgow, we could have had a chance at home if our administrators had acted more cleverly," he said.

Hopefully, such decisions will be left in Arok's hands in future.

Iraklis wants Steve Tasio

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Steve Tasio, who's been rubbing shoulders with Bryan Robson, Vasili Hatzipanagis, Jesper Olsen and Mark Hughes, may be the next Australian to join an overseas club.

Hot on the heels of Jim Patikas's transfer to AEK Athens and Oscar Crino's move to Anorthosis of Cyprus, comes the news that Iraklis is interested in Tasio.

The Heidelberg forward or midfielder returned last week after training for two months with Manchester United, Leicester City and Iraklis.

He played in a practice match which Iraklis won 5-0, and afterwards the coaches sounded him out about a move to Greece.

"My ambition is to play as a full-time professional. There's now the chance that Iraklis will fly me to Greece again, all expenses paid, to have a closer look at me," Tasio said.

He was in England at the time of the Australia-Scotland World Cup clashes and, being an Australian, he had to endure a lot of good-natured ribbing when the Socceroos failed.

They called him "Coolee", an abbreviation of Coolangatta, where the Manchester United players went surfing during their 1984 visit.

Bryan Robson, the England captain, delighted in laughing over Australian cricket.

And many at Manchester United picked up on the newspapers' description of the Socceroos — particularly Steve O'Connor and David Ratcliffe — as "rugby players."

Tasio's stint in England was arranged for him by Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey who knows United's assistant manager Mick Brown, and Leicester's second-in-charge, Gerry Summers.

He had five weeks with United, staying at dig 100 metres from the training ground, along with left back Clayton Blackmore, and one week with Leicester before going to Greece.

About United boss Ron Atkinson, Tasio says: "He's not a bad guy but a bit of a nut. He drives this huge Mercedes and wears these high fashion track suits."

Tasio trained mainly with the reserves and youth team, and twice with the seniors.

"All the players encouraged me, and joked around with me," he said. "It was a great experience."

"The pace of the game is much faster and the players' skill and technique are better than here."

"I tried to work on my defensive qualities, which aren't all that good, and on playing first-time, and dribbling only in the right areas of the field."

The Manchester United players all spoke about Alan Davidson, because he had made his Nottingham Forest debut in a 3-2 victory over United.

The Leicester City players all remembered Victor Cristaldo who played there in the youth team and who's now with Melbourne Croatia.

He saw none of the crowd violence which has marred soccer in Britain over recent years, but during a match between United and Liverpool at Anfield, he decided that discretion

Continued page 15

\$1/2 mil debt

The Australian Soccer Federation Marketing company, which promoted major international tournaments in Australia in 1984 and 1985, is over half a million dollars in debt.

ASF M has realizable assets of \$7,005, trade creditors of \$645,815 and substantial sums owing to tournament organisers, a situation bound to send shudders down the spine of prospective promoters of Australian soccer.

Nelson Wheeler, chartered accountants, has sent a proposal of payment to ASF M creditors, which reads, in part:

"The directors of ASF M have dissected trade creditors into two categories — (a) Small sundry creditors totalling \$26,995; (b) External trade creditors totalling \$518,817."

Small sundry creditors are to be paid in full once all external trade creditors agree to their proposed repayment in three instalments, the first due 21 days after agreeing, in writing, to the proposal, the second due and payable by December 31, 1986 and the third due and payable by December 31, 1987."



Kaz Kulak — NSW top-liner directs training in Melbourne. See page 5.

Vicente Estavillo is up for grabs

Sydney Olympic transfer-listed Vicente Estavillo (pictured) last weekend, a handful of weeks after signing the midfield maestro from Uruguay.

"I hope he will be a happier man at another club," said Olympic president Tom Doumanis after Estavillo failed to turn up for Olympic's Ampol Cup clash with Canterbury.

Estavillo was unhappy about Olympic's inability to meet the January 31 deadline for the payment of one third of his signing-on fee. According to Doumanis, Estavillo was told that the money would be paid a week later but walked out on the club.

Under NSL rules, Estavillo will be able to transfer to another NSL club. He's a former Uruguay international and starred with Penarol and Panathinaikos in a distinguished career.

Olympic has given Estavillo a free transfer.

— ALEX VESIC.

State champs back in Cup

State League champions will join the 24 NSL clubs in contesting the National Cup for the first time since 1981, when the now defunct Hakoah (Vic) reached the quarter-finals.

The draw for the first round will be made late this week or early next week.

The first round will be played on a regional basis.

The State league representatives are:

Victoria: Croydon City.

NSW: Melita Eagles (grand-final winner, taking the place of Canterbury which has been promoted to the NSL).

South Australia: Salisbury United.

Queensland: Ipswich United.

Northern NSW: Belmont Swansea.

A.C.T.: West Woden Juniors.

Tasmania: Juventus Pioneer.

Western Australia: West Perth Macedonia.



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CALLING ALL REFS — LIFT YOUR GAME!

By LAURIE SCHWAB

What are referees doing about livening up the game? We all agree that soccer needs to be more entertaining, that dour defensive attitudes need to be done away with, that more goals are needed to please the fans.

Referees can help in two vital areas.

First, they must start to apply logic in offside decisions. Secondly, they should encourage the quick free kick.

In both areas, we have seen cause for concern in Buffalo Cup matches. No doubt the same is true of Ampol Cups being played in Sydney and Adelaide.

The rules make it clear that offside decisions need not be given when players offside are not interfering with play.

It is a proviso that means a referee need not award offside simply because a linesman has his flag up.

Yet in so many cases, the raised flag is treated by the referee as absolute, irrefutable gospel.

A goal scored from the right, while a player is offside on the far left, should not be ruled offside. A 30-metre shot that lands in the net should not be disallowed simply because someone is standing in an offside position, well away from the goalkeeper.

A cut-back from the bye-line which is smashed in from a deep position while the person who cut it back is caught offside, should not be disallowed either, yet it happened to Macedonia.

Then we have the free kick situation. If a team is awarded a free kick, it means that team has been unfairly treated by the opposition.

The free kick is intended to right the wrong, and the team that gets the free kick is supposed to get an advantage from it.

The advantage is gained by playing it quickly, while opponents are out of position, and if the referee demands that the kicker waits until the referee is ready, any advantage is lost.

It is up to the referee to make sure he is ready at all times. It is not fair to penalise the team that already has been the victim of unfair play.

Schaefer sidesteps Olympic rumors

Manfred Schaefer is about to begin his third season with Sydney Olympic. If that's not a world record, at least it's an Olympic record.

The club which in the past — as Olympic and as Pan Hellenic, their thinly veiled progenitors — was notorious for its coaching instability now regards Schaefer as household furniture. Below the surface the traditional Greek volcanic forces are dormant. Nobody would ever even blink if one day again they surged to the fore.

But not now and not yet; Manfred Schaefer, once the iron man of Australian soccer, the celebrated milko star, the man who looks more broadshouldered strapped than those Chicago Bears giants with their paddings, is firmly in charge of the team.

True, the club itself is in some sort of a ferment: the clubhouse at Waterloo has folded up, after some losing years. Olympic is now looking for new premises in the Marrickville area which is as Greek as Rhodes or Saloni.

The loss of the clubhouse has added fuel to the perennial rumors about Olympic's bizarre debts. People in the know talk about \$500,000 to \$800,000 and efforts to have the loans refinanced, à la Mexico. Some "well informed" rumor-mongers have been spreading the "news" that Olympic may not even start in the NSL or, if it does, it may shed its name, like snakes shed their skin and continue under a new one.

Manfred Schaefer laughs at these suggestions. He knows the club has financial problems ("tell me one which hasn't") but he swears that he himself as well as all the players have been getting all their wages and fees without any problem. And some of these wages, they say, aren't peanuts.

Manfred is more concerned with team preparation than with club politicking. He is, in fact, quite excited about the team's prospects and hopes to keep the club near the top.

Four newcomers will add great strength to the Olympic squad. Manfred expects big things from ex-Heidelberg striker Stuart Stevenson, a Scot who was also strongly in the viewfinder of Blacktown and St George.

Blacktown later got Robbie Slater and the Saints have gained John McKie. Olympic's deal appears to be the most lucrative.

Richard Bourke, 24, a midfielder, was an Everton's boy but also spent time with the Washington Diplomats in the now defunct NASL. And the other new chum is striker Simon Brandt from Newcastle. "With a nice German name like that, I couldn't resist," Schaefer jokes.

The debit side is also impressive. Olympic has lost Graham Jennings, the classy Socceroo fullback, who wants to join Croatia. Young striker Mark Koussas has gone to APIA.

"I told Mark honestly that I cannot guarantee him a first team spot," says Schaefer. "After eight faithful and largely successful years Mark deserves this. He is a splendid young man who could easily prove me wrong in his new surroundings."

Terry Patalis, the long-striding winger is "still somewhere in Europe," says Schaefer. "I haven't heard from him for some time, only through his father. This isn't the first time he goes on a European walkabout around Christmas. I think he is in Cyprus or maybe in Greece."

Peter Kathole is a different story, really.

He bought out his own contract when he went to Greece and joined Larissa. So if he ever returns to Australia, he will come as a free player, eligible to sell himself anywhere he likes.

"From what I hear, Peter has only played one first team game since September," says Schaefer. "And that was in a European cup game against Sampdoria. I don't know why he can't make the first team regularly there — but obviously it's not as easy as we often think."

Schaefer is beaming with delight when he mentions that his two reliable defenders, Mick Coady and Martyn Rogers, are due back soon. Coady is waiting only for his visitor's visa while Rogers is selling up his house there. Both have been playing during their British sojourn — Coady with Wolverhampton, Rogers with Nottingham Forest.

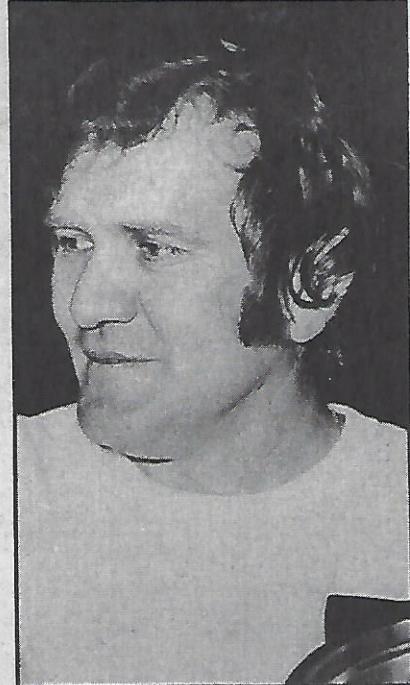
And finally, the ace of the pack, the star of the show, the one and only and incomparable Marshall Soper, eternal enfant terrible of Australian soccer.

Schaefer says Marshall is no longer either "enfant" or "terrible".

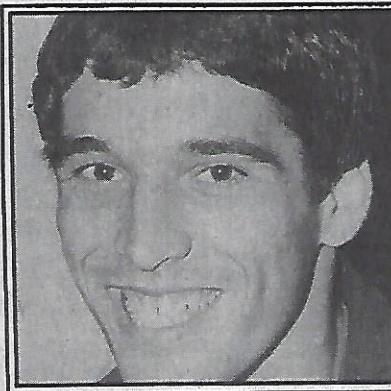
"He is absolutely determined to fight his way back into the Socceroo team. Last year, for a variety of reasons, Soper threw away his Socceroo shirt. He now wants it back and I think he will make it. Frank Arok is not as unbending any more as he used to be — and that's nice. Nobody can doubt that Soper is good enough to play for the Socceroos."



Andrew Dettre



• Manfred Schaefer



Koussas joins APIA

• APIA Leichhardt last week completed the signing of striker Mark Koussas from Sydney Olympic.

Koussas, leading scorer in the 1981 World Youth Championship finals, was transferred to APIA for \$175,000.

There's still no news yet on the names of the top flight European stars negotiating with APIA, coach Rale Basic but we'll keep you posted.

NATIONAL SOCCER ANNUAL 1986

SENSATIONAL SOCCEROOS:

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WEST PERTH
MACEDONIA:
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scorers in all
States



Juve best in Australia
thanks to Margaritis



OUT NOW AT YOUR
NEWSAGENCY

Yugoslav S.O.S.

By
LAURIE
SCHWAB

Zdravko Lujic this week appealed to the Yugoslav community — especially prominent businessmen — to get behind Footscray J.U.S.T.

"It is our last chance to have a big Yugoslav club in Australia," the J.U.S.T. winger said.

"If we go down now, it will be very hard to come up again. It will be the same as what happened to Yugal in Sydney."

"Our president, Tony Amon, is working hard and giving everything for the club but there are not enough people to help. Everyone from the Yugoslav community must help, or we will be in trouble. What we need is young people to get involved."

"We have a big tradition at J.U.S.T. We have had some of Australia's best players — Sekularac, Micic, Mladenovic, Djurovic, Adamicovic, Rustic, Zoraja. We have won many championships and Cups. J.U.S.T. deserves the support of the Yugoslav community."

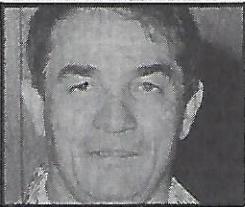
"We are waiting for our new coach, Drago Sekularac, to arrive from Yugoslavia, and he has signed up three players. I am sure we will be OK. I am sure he can make a good team, but we need five players altogether. And we need support."

Lujic was speaking from the heart. The 31-year-old former Novi Sad player is in his ninth season with J.U.S.T., making him one of the club's longest-serving players, along with Branko Buljevic, Tommy Stankovic and Frank Micic.

He has been caretaker player-coach pending Sekularac's arrival, and in J.U.S.T.'s first Buffalo Cup game, he lost goalkeeper Mark Turuda who was sent off for kicking Shaun Parton of George Cross. In addition, midfielder Ariel Perez-Reigosa was injured.

"If Sekularac comes back, he would have gone straight back to Yugoslavia," Lujic said.

"Midfield is the biggest problem for



• Drago Sekularac



• J.U.S.T. recruit Zoran Nikitovic (standing, right), with Partizan Belgrade in 1979, from left, standing: Stejkovic, Zalad, Djurovic, Lazic, Kozic, Kunovac, Nikitovic. Front: Klincarski, Varga, Todorovic, Santrac, Prekazi.

the club. No-one can create chances. Ose-Latif was waiting for the ball, Bill Lazopoulos was waiting for the ball. But no one could get it up there."

"Ernie Tapai is a very good player but not a creator. He is a good dribbler, he can run for three days and he has a big future, but we need someone for the smart, cheeky ball, like Oscar Crino, or like Luke Bonacic."

He also expects the new players to make major contributions. They are goalkeeper Zoran Nikitovic, from Naredak, formerly with Partizan Belgrade; centre back Veljko Vukcevic from Buducnost and striker Milos Stasic from Red Star Belgrade.

Community must help J.U.S.T. says Lujic

Colombia and had charge of the Guatemala national team for last year's World Cup campaign.

While waiting for him, J.U.S.T. has had a procession of players passing through at training. They have included Danny Ward from Melbourne-Hungaria, Steve Douglas from Albion Turf Gucu and former J.U.S.T. player Joe Picioane, also with Albion now.

Lujic, looking back over eight seasons, names the following 11 as the best who have played for J.U.S.T. over the period:

Dennis Boland — Kyri Kyriakouleas, Jim Klaris, Jim Kondaros, Igor Hazabent — Joe Picioane, Harry McDowell, Mirko Ristic, Zoran Illic — Joe Palma, Mendo Ristevski.

And he names Cedo Cirkovic as the best coach. "He worked hard and he worked properly," Lujic says. "Cira's mistake was that he always tried to save the club money by getting cheap players, or building up young ones. But clubs do not wait for results. They like a coach more if he spends \$200,000 on players straight away."

Lujic expects South Melbourne Hellas to be the top team of 1986. "Croatia and Alexander will be good too. Alexander is looking good. Brian Garvey works very hard with them. They lose players but they are still good. Hellas will be No. 1. They played better than Croatia even though they lost 2-1. Hellas played beautiful soccer, like Everton, and Halford was brilliant. If I was a national coach, I would give Halford a chance."

Talking about matters concerning the national team, Lujic was in Rudi Gutendorf's national squad, but had only one training match — against the national youth team, at the SCG.

"Only a stupid rule about having to play against Scotland, has kept Australia out of the World Cup," he says. "Arok must now change his team a bit and give a chance to other players, younger ones, like Tapai and Halford. Maybe Soper will come back, and Arnold may be will play. If we had Soper or Arnold against Scotland, instead of Kosmina, maybe we would have won."

Looking to the World Cup finals in June, Lujic expects West Germany, Brazil, Argentina and the USSR to be the leading contenders, with Mexico also giving a chance.

"I don't think France will do much in such a tournament and I don't think Italy will, either."



• Zdravko Lujic — ninth season at J.U.S.T.

Jennings could go back to Olympic

As we went to press, Sydney Croatia was deciding whether or not to pay the \$30,000 fee placed on the head of Sydney Olympic and Socceroo star Graham Jennings last week by the appeal board.

"I wouldn't blame Croatia if they decided not to pay \$30,000 for me, after all, I'm a defender. If the worst comes to the worst I could find myself back with Olympic," said Jennings.

"I thought that I had good arguments to present to the appeal board and I thought I clearly justified the payments I received from Olympic but the board must have thought otherwise. I wonder where all of this will stop? If a defender has his price set at \$30,000 then surely it will soon be priced at \$40,000 and \$50,000."

Jennings has been with Olimpic for seven seasons. He was bought from a Newcastle-based team for \$1,000 and has made 43 Socceroo appearances.

Jankovics trying to join Demons

Mark Jankovics and Marconi ended a seven-year relationship last week on a sour note when the club's longest serving player and greatest ever goalscorer was forced to appeal against the \$27,500 transfer fee thwarting his bid to join Blacktown.

Jankovics was tempted by Blacktown's offer of a two-year contract. The 29-year-old former Socceroo was offered a one-year contract by Marconi.

"It means that Marconi is going backwards to come to terms with me and the club has been very, very good to me over the years but at this stage of my career I needed the added security of a two-year contract," said Jankovics.

"I'm looking to the future. In some ways though I'm disappointed with Marconi for I feel a player is at his peak between the ages of 28 and 32. Marconi felt otherwise and I'm not prepared to mess around."

"I've been Marconi's top scorer every season since joining from St George for \$12,000. I scored 16 goals last year in just 20 games and I've proved myself as a consistent scorer."

"I hope that the appeal board will look on my situation favorably. After seven years of service to Marconi and at the age of 29, a figure of around about \$12,000 what Marconi paid for me, would be pretty reasonable."



• Graham Jennings of SM-Hellas heads clear in front of Gerry Bennett of George Cross. At rear are Roger Bain (left) and Charlie Egan (right).

Australia may lose Garry McDowell unless the immigration authorities change their attitude.

And if McDowell is forced to return to Scotland, the Socceroos will be deprived of a true champion.

McDowell played for Australia B against China last year, but the Immigration Department has rejected his application for permanent residency.

He remains on a soccer visa which has to be extended every year.

"After four years, they kick you out. I'll have been here for three years in June," the South Melbourne Hellas star said this week.

He has appealed against the Immigration Department ruling, and has the support of the Australian Soccer Federation and national coach Frank Arok who wants him for the Socceroo squad.

"Arok said he was looking for players who can play various positions," McDowell, 26, said.

"If John Yzendoorn had stayed at Hellas this year, I would have been playing central midfield rather than sweeper. John Margaritis told me I wouldn't be stuck on the right anymore, and that he'd be looking for goals from me.

"I wasn't happy last year on the right flank because I couldn't get involved in the

ASF, Arok fight for Hellas star

The set-up is professional.

He has high hopes for his Melbourne team-mates in the national B team — Richard Miranda, Mike Petersen, Paul Wade and Sean Lane. "They'll continue to try to prove themselves. The main thing is to be there, because it's harder to get out of the national squad than it is to get in."

McDowell played for Hamilton Academicals in Scotland for eight years, three of them as captain, before coming to Australia to join Footscray JUST from where he transferred to Hellas.

But despite his fine form, he never was in the running for the Scottish national squad. "It's a closed shop over there," he says. "Only Celtic, Rangers, Aberdeen or Dundee United players get into the Scotland side. Others get in only after moving to England — like Frank Johnston."

"Obviously, Frank Arok will be making a few changes because people are getting older and retiring," he said. "I'd play in goal if he wanted me to. The atmosphere is tremendous."

He can succeed here where he failed internationally in Scotland but meanwhile, McDowell concentrates on winning everything there is to be won with Hellas.

"We'll be there at the end of the season," he says. "The dangers will be Croatia and Juventus. Makedonia should be there as well, but we'll be the strongest."

It puzzles McDowell that Hellas does not have a better record of producing home-grown players. Of the present 11, only Angie Postecoglou is a former Hellas junior, although there are others, like John Kanesous and Peter Vardaxis, on the bench.

"Kids here don't seem to be hungry enough to win, to succeed, to strive for the national team. They're too well off. They come along in their big cars and they earn good money. In Europe they try to succeed at soccer in order to make a bit of money."

"I admire John Kanesous for his attitude. He's always on the bench, but he's a determined little bugger. He's telling me he'll be the captain of Hellas one day."

— LAURIE SCHWAB



• Mark Jankovics (right) tangles with former Footscray J.U.S.T. star Mirko Ristic.

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• South Australia's Neville Flounders tackles Korean Kim Jeong Site in Calcutta.



• Charley Villani (centre) is beaten to the ball by East Bengal skipper Turan Dey. Pictures: JOE JANKO

Indian TV audience sees Sth Australian triumph

South Australia's great performances in winning the DCM tournament in India in the off-season should ensure that the State has an exciting 1986 season.

Having been in the doldrums for several seasons and unable to find opponents for its State team, the SA Soccer Federation decided to travel overseas to find competition.

After negotiations to tour Japan and Malaysia fell through, the chance came to go to India to compete in the leading end-of-season DCM Tournament. Once again, with the final, the South Australians ousted two local Indian sides, the Korean holder of the President's

Cup, the champion of China and finally the Indian league champion and Cup holder.

SA was quickly followed by the local public, becoming one of the most popular overseas sides to visit that country.

Their style of play appealed to the spectators and their generally friendly nature brought acclaim wherever they travelled.

The squad, selected by SA State coach Mike Wells, was a blend of experience and youth and showed an interesting mix of National League and State League players.

Eleven of the squad were playing overseas for the first time and part of the idea was to give experience to players of national team potential.

Richard Preston of Beograd scored a hat-trick, the first by an SA player in a State game.

Evergreen Nobby Nyskohus led the side in fine style, making him one of the finest players in Australia today.

However, SA's success did not rest as much on individual performances as on a solid squad effort.

The DCM All-India Tournament has been in existence since 1945.

In 1969 the organising committee decided to permit overseas teams to participate by invitation.

Since then the trophy has travelled to North and South Korea, Iran, and the U.S.S.R.

Four times sides from Western Australia have participated and in 1984 its State side won.

Being SA's first visit overseas, it was certainly a wonderful effort to bring back the magnificent DCM trophy.

The competition kicked off at the Dr Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi on November 28, with 32 Indian clubs vying for eight places in the quarter-finals.

SA, along with sides from South Korea and China plus three leading Indian sides, were automatically seeded into the quarter-finals which started on December 13.

Arriving in India on December 14 after an exhausting 24-hour flight, SA played its first game just two days later against PSEB.

India had experienced unprecedented rain for December and the match was played in extremely muddy conditions.

Taking the early initiative SA was two goals up inside seven minutes. The local side pulled a goal back inside two minutes of the second half but Preston, a second half substitute, put the result beyond doubt.

The second game, two days later, was played under slightly improved conditions against the Aryans Club from Calcutta.

After going three goals up inside the first half an hour through Maxwell and Preston, SA twice relaxed its grip until Preston completed his hat-trick in the second half.

West Adelaide Hellas offered Preston Makedonia \$15,000 last week for Socceroo defender Robbie Dunn yet the latest from the Makedonia camp is that Dunn's services are required and he's not for sale.

Makedonia's stance is a last-ditch attempt to retain its star player but it won't work, according to Dunn.

"My wife leaves next week to start work in Adelaide and I'll be leaving in about a fortnight to start my new job there. If this thing drags on I'll simply keep working and living in Adelaide until it's resolved," he said.

South Korea's champion, the Bank of Seoul, looked the most impressive side in the minor rounds, despite being behind SA on goal difference.

A draw was enough for SA to qualify, but there were some quick heartbeats among members of the party as the Korean were ahead 2-0 at 20th minute.

SA suffered a major setback when Serge Melts broke his forearm inside five mins but the extent of his injury was not detected until half time. The sheer guts and determination of this player was an outstanding example to all. Indeed, it was his replacement Adrian Santrac who then became the hero of the day when his blistering free kick from outside the penalty area found the far corner of the net in the 83rd min.

In the semi-final, on Christmas Eve, SA was pitted against the 1984 winner, Liaoing from China.

As national champion with some 15 competitive matches under its belt before arrival in India, Liaoing entered the game as favorite.

With 13 mins remaining, Maxwell, heading for goal, was felled by keeper Xu Tao in the box, but as almost everyone awaited the referee's whistle for a penalty, Chris Manou followed up to put the ball in the net.

The final against East Bengal was played on December 27, before a full house of 25,000. The game was screened live on television throughout India and such was the interest generated that the game drew greater press coverage than the second cricket test match between India and Australia.

The Calcutta side was strengthened by the return of three international players, who brought its national team complement up to nine players.

A formidable and popular side in India, East Bengal was national champion and Federation Cup holder and had been narrowly defeated by CA Penarol from Uruguay in the semi-final of the IFA Shield in a penalties shoot-out.

Early on SA might well have been three goals up, but having let East Bengal off the hook, the Indian side gained confidence.

As the game entered extra time, SA gained the upper hand and despite mounting constant attacks, the vital goal eluded them.

It then needed a penalty shoot-out to decide the outright champion.

All credit to the SA lads who had to play five games in twelve days, while Liaoing played one game less in the minor rounds to quality.

Robbie Dunn defiant

When I joined Makedonia it was for a lot less money than what was offered to me by Macao, Croatia and Maribor, I signed Makedonia because it was given a maximum transfer fee clause in my contract. Makedonia paid \$3000 for me and now they've been offered \$6000 more. That's fair enough by me.

Meanwhile, Mike Necoski, Makedonia's prize recruit from Pelister in Yugoslavia still was waiting to be granted a visa to play here while Ron Campion, the club's owner or signing, was expected to arrive from Western Australia by the end of next week. Midfielder Zoran Illicski still is overseas and is expected back in March.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

McGachey waits, Rankin goes

By ALLAN CRISP

Because of lack of finance, Adelaide City Juventus is unlikely to compete with Hellas's player-buying spree.

Any overseas import or super guest would have to be by courtesy of one of Juventus's sponsors — a prospect not dismissed by new coach Zoran Matic.

With Neville Flounders and Willie McNally now signed after lengthy negotiations, Juventus has retained most of its 1985 squad.

Speedy striker Peter Rankin, now training with Adelaide Croatia, is a notable exception.

When Rankin failed to agree on terms with Juventus he was approached by Croatia, Beograd, Cumberland and Campbelltown City.

Campbelltown secured a swap deal involving goalkeeper Lou Pivetta and Rankin is keen to continue his career in Australia with a former SA Youth team coach, now Croatia boss, Peter Jaksic.

Rankin was leading scorer for the title-winning SA team in Canberra in 1981.

Juventus signed Paul Wilde, another member of that SA Youth squad, but the Azzurri striker will miss the Ampol series after damag-



• Andy Higgins (right), pursued by Ian Dobson of Makedonia.

Move aside or get hurt — Higgins

Frank McGrellis — target of both South Melbourne Hellas and Heidelberg — would be a big hit in the NSL, according to Heidelberg recruit Andy Higgins who played against McGrellis in South Africa.

"He was equal top scorer in South Africa with 22 goals last season," Higgins said. "He's bushy, he's aggressive, he works hard. I'd like to see him come here. He'd do any club a world of good."

While the wait for McGrellis continues, interest is focused on Higgins, the 6ft 4ins battering-ram striker who scored 15 goals in 35 games for Hellenic in South Africa, after stints with Chesterfield, Port Vale, Rochdale and Wrexham in England.

He alternated between centre forward and centre back in England, but hopes to stay up front in the Heidelberg team.

Talking about his strengths as a player, Higgins says: "I work hard and obviously my heading is my strength. I'm not a good dribbler; I play it one-touch. Players can use me as a wall, to bounce the ball off. I'm aggressive in the box — and I've been penalised a few times for it. If people get in my way, they get hurt!" "Magic," Higgins' first impression of Australian soccer, it was good in South Africa. "I enjoyed the humor there. The South Africans don't have the ability to laugh at themselves."

The standard of soccer in South Australia is comparable with Australia's, but crowds there are much larger.

A total of 89,000 watched the South African Cup final between Fraser Celtic and African Wanderers.

"The blacks are more skillful than players here but they're not as disciplined or well-organised. They play to the crowd. They're not our national team goals."

Hellecik, beaten 2-1 over two legs in the Cup semi-final by McGrellis's club, Wits University (Richard Miranda's former club), has had many distinguished players over the years, including Bobby Moore, Uwe Seeler, Alan Ball and Roger Hunt. The club is owned by Greeks.

Higgins feels quite at home in Melbourne. He played against Makedonia's Ian Dobson in England; he was a team-mate of Morwell Falcons' Russell Athertech at Chesterfield and Steve Smith had a trial with Rochdale while Higgins was there.

Players who impressed him in the early Buffalo Cup rounds are: Peter Tsakiris (Heidelberg), Richard Miranda (Hellas) and Dobson. —

Laurie Schwab.

Soccer City

• Cedo Cirkovic's "Sports Extra" store, Bridge Road, Richmond, has taken over "Soccer City", which was located in Grey Street, St Kilda, and run by Mike Kupinic.

Cirkovic invites all clubs and individuals who had been dealing with Soccer City to contact Sports Extra at 66 Bridge Road, phone

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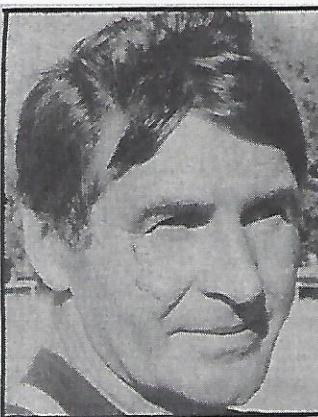
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• Kaz Kulak — new coach of Polonia (Vic)

By CRAIG MCKENZIE

Julio Avian and Andrzej Zsembery aren't household names in Australian soccer. One day they may be and if that day comes they'll remember Kaz Kulak.

Kulak, recently appointed coach of Victorian State League club Polonia, has an outstanding record in Australia for producing young talent but that record sometimes hangs like a yoke around his neck. "I have this funny reputation for making players. Clubs seem to think that if they hire me, they'll suddenly find all this young, local talent playing regularly in their first teams but it doesn't work like that. It takes three, four, maybe five years to build a team based on local talent and how many clubs in this country have that much patience?" asks Kulak.

Kulak himself lacks patience, judging by his hunger for success in his first coaching stint in Victoria.

"Yes, I'm a greedy man. I want to finish in first place in State League. Then again, we can't always get what we want. If that's the case this year then I want to at least finish second."

Peter Rashpalis, Rob de Ceglie, Vince Calipari, Chris Kalantzis, Terry Patalis and Alex Lambropoulos... Kulak calls them "my boys" in a proud, paternalistic way, not boastfully.

"If they're young enough they're good enough," Tommy Docherty once said to Kulak and the sentiment stuck. Docherty sought Kulak's advice about throwing teenager Kalantzis into Sydney Olympic's first team a few years ago. Kulak said that Kalantzis was ready and that was good enough for the Doc.

"Tommy Docherty is a really great person and as a coach, I respect him for

giving kids a chance. There's a lot of talented young players in this country but not many talented coaches."

Even the national team should start looking to the future and bring in younger players, according to Kulak.

"We must get ready for the Olympics now but really, the Olympics should be part of our preparation for the next World Cup qualifying games. Put Farina in the team. Bring Patikas back to play international games."

"I'm not telling Frank Arok what to do. He doesn't need any advice. His record speaks for itself. I'm only saying what I would do if I were in charge. I would be looking to produce a very different team to the one which has been successful over the past couple of years. Now is the time to rebuild."

Kulak is a salesmen, in business and in soccer. There's a Rule Rasic type of quality about the man yet unlike the former national coach, Kulak never has been in the position of spending big money on new players. But Kulak is a match for Rasic on the charisma stakes.

"We need big personalities in Australian soccer and even though the National League is far too physical for my liking I'm not worried. Thank goodness there never will be a suitable substitute for soccer."

Kulak was a skillful player but he doesn't just hold himself up as a mirror to the men he now coaches.

"In Sydney I played against the APIA of Cliff van Blerk, Stan Ackerley, George Keith, Fil Bottalico, Archie Blue, Ricky Campana and Johnny Giacometti; the Hakoah of Alan Marinho, Johnny Watt, Henry Mowbray and Willie Rutherford and the St George of Doug Utjesenovic, Johnny Warren and Jim Fraser. Just think about those names, think about how big they were in character and look at what we have now."

"Attie Abonyi is the most skillful Australian forward I've seen. One of the greatest midfielders I've seen one of the

finest men I've met is Jimmy Rooney."

Kulak was 16 when he made his first-team debut for Garbaria Krakow, then in Poland's Second Division. He was there for six years before transferring to First Division club Gwardia Warsaw. Injury forced him out of Poland's squad for the Rome Olympics but he played instead at youth and senior levels. Polonia Sydney brought him to Australia in 1967.

"The Polonia side of 1968 was really, really good. We missed out on the championship by a point after drawing with Sydney Hakoah 6-0 in the last match."

In 1971, Kulak was Polonia's player-coach but in 1972 he transferred, as a player, to Canterbury for \$2,000. It wasn't long though before his coaching talents called upon.

"Les Scheinflug, who's one of my best mates, was sacked as coach with about eight games left. The Canterbury committee came to my house and told me that I was coach. I didn't want that. Les is my friend. But the committee said that Les already had gone and it was too late to do anything about it so I became player-coach for those few games."

Kulak travelled to Prague in 1973 for \$3,000. Les Bannister was Prague's coach. "He was a good coach."

"Les is a really nice person with a great reputation here, a very respectable person."

Prague was relegated that year and amalgamated with Yugal. A stomach muscle injury ended Kulak's playing career.

"Pan Hellenic wanted to sign me but I couldn't get over this stomach injury. I saw many, many doctors but no-one could help."

Then a new challenge appeared. Kulak was offered a job in Indonesia as coach of leading club Jayakarta. He accepted but stayed there for just a year.

"I couldn't stand the climate. There are just two seasons there — very dry and very wet. Les Scheinflug was coaching Western Suburbs and he asked

me to be his assistant. I didn't want to do it. I wanted a break, but you know how possessive I am."

Suburbia had a poor year in 1975 and in 1976 Kulak took charge of the first team for the pre-season Ampol Cup. Suburbia beat St. George in the final but hired Archie Blue, a former player, as senior coach. That relegated Kulak to coach of the second grade side. The seniors finished second bottom that year. Kulak's team reached the second grade grand final only to lose to Marconi.

A handful of ambitious club bosses gave birth to the National League in 1977. Sydney Olympic was a founder member of the league but after 10 games, Bruce Stowell was sacked as coach and Kulak hired.

"It was a big challenge for me. Everything was so new then. Everyone was so excited. It was a great time for Australia."

"The average age of the Olympic team was 22, easily the youngest in the competition but I was very happy with the players."

"Motivation is a very important thing for me. It doesn't matter one bit what a player gets paid if he doesn't believe in himself and his coach. Olympic's first home game after I took over resulted in a 4-0 win against Brisbane City. We'd scored more goals in one game than we'd scored in the previous 10! And Adelaide City was a big team then. We beat them 3-1. They were supposed to have spent \$200,000 on building their team. Olympic had spent just \$10,000."

"I had three Billy Piries. I would have finished in the top four for sure. Pirie is the most tireless forward and the most professional one that I have seen. He played only seven games for Olympic but scored seven goals."

Kulak had big plans for the 1978 season. He wanted to sign Tony Henderson, Alan Ainslie and Graham Norris. Olympic's committee refused so Kulak quit.

"I wanted to use Henderson as a true libero. I saw Ainslie as my playmaker in



• Kaz Kulak — new coach of Polonia (Vic)

Mr. Charisma, that's Kulak

Mentor of Kalantzis, de Ceglie finds new stars at Polonia

midfield, my general, and I saw in Norris the sort of goalscoring ability I marvelled at in Pirie."

From 1978 to 1980, Kulak coached Avala and switched to Arncilffe Scots in 1981 with just 10 games to go. He saved Arncilffe from relegation. He was director of junior coaching at APIA in 1982 and in 1983 guided Macedonian outfit Rockdale Ilinden to the Second Division championship and a State League berth. But early in the 1984 season he clashed with Ilinden's committee and left.

"The committee wasn't happy with me because there weren't enough Macedonians in the team. I told the committee that I had no favorites. I pick the best team available. The committee didn't accept that."

For the past year and a half, Kulak has been director of junior coaching at Sydney Hakoah, a club he calls the most professional in Australia.

"Administrators at other clubs should go to Sydney Hakoah to learn how to do their jobs. The head coach, Eddie Thompson, is a great person who makes sure that there is very close co-operation between the coaching staff. Eddie is the boss though. No-one tells him how to pick his team. It was an absolute pleasure to work with him and I wish with all my heart that one day this man will be the national coach."

Professionalism is the keynote of Kulak's approach to the task of making Melbourne's Polonia a great side. He has held just nine training sessions but is very encouraged with what he's seen.

"The players are working well in training, all of them. I can't ask for any more."

"I'm not going to run them into the ground, that's ridiculous. It's the easiest thing in the world to do but once you kill a player, try to bring him back to see how hard it is."

"And I'm not scared to use good young players. I have a couple already who are very impressive — a boy called Julio Avian and another called Andrzej Zsembery."

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Country kids flying high

The Victorian Country Region (under 13) squad completed its exhausting tour of Europe with six victories out of 13 games played and a record of 48 goals scored and 28 conceded.

Though the results in the games were not the most important aspect of the tour, they showed that the team gave a good account of itself and made an excellent impression everywhere it went.

The tour began with the long and tiring flight from Melbourne to Frankfurt, via Kuala Lumpur and Dubai. Then the boys took a sightseeing tour on a bus from Frankfurt to Bonn along the Rhine Valley. Since they arrived early in the morning, it seemed a good idea to keep them going until as late in the day as possible, so that they could pick up the rhythm of European time, but by evening there were some very tired people. Monday was spent in Bonn and on a cruise on the Rhine and then on Tuesday, they went to the Hennel Sportschule where they were joined by their excellent German coach Bernd Schunk.

For the rest of the week, the boys practised their soccer skills, outdoor and indoor. Bernd was impressed with their enthusiasm and commitment and some of their skills, but concerned that the boys were not as supple or well-conditioned as their counterparts in Germany. This judgement is confirmed by the warm-up exercises shown on video. Perhaps we need to put more emphasis on flexibility and body movement to complement the more direct soccer skills which the lads have to learn.

During this first spell at Hennel, the team played two games against local sides. Westseling Sportverein were beaten 5-0, while Uwe Haussman's SV Bonner team was annihilated 13-0.

At the weekend the lads took a bus to Amsterdam, where they played SV de Meteor. This too was an easy win by 12 goals.

The lads were loathe to leave Hennel, where Bernd Schunk had done everything he was asked to do and more. The facilities were perfect and once the catering staff learned that the lads were not too keen on traditional German breakfasts and supplied cereals and french fries then there was little to fault.

On Friday, October 25, there was an early start to catch the bus to Frankfurt for the flight to London. In London, Peter



• The Victorian Country region under 13 squad, back row: Paul Haliday (coach), Kris Trajanovski, Cameron Price, Peter Sorocuk, Tyler Ford, Andrew Harris, Derrick Hayes (manager). Middle row: Ian Gordon, Pieter Langeveld, Dawson McLeod, Ross Hay, Justin Hayhurst. Front row: Wayne Morsi, Daniel Hayes. Missing: Jason McAuliffe, Adam Mori, Leigh Allan.

Tour details

Results of the Victorian country region under 13s European tour:

v SV Westseling 5-0, scorers: Kris Trajanovski, Justin Hayhurst, Wayne (skip) Smith, Ross Hay, Jason McAuliffe, v Bonner SV 13-0, scorers: Skip 3, Daniel Hayes 2, Ross 2, Justin 2, Adam Morsi 1, Kris, Paul McCluskey, own goal v SV de Meteor 12-0, scorers: Kris 6, Ross 2, Skip, Jason, Leigh, Allan, Adam. v FC Kain U-14 0-8. v Dundee United 5-0, scorers: Paul 2, Kris 2, Andrew Harris.

v Celtic Boys Club 0-3. v Ayr Boswell 3-0, scorers: Kris 2, Leigh, Rangers AFC 2-7, scorers: Ross, Justin. v Merioneth 5-0, scorers: Kris 2, Justin, Paul, Ross. v Shrewsbury Wakeman 1-2, scorer: Kris. v Admiral JFC 0-2. v Oldham 1-4, scorer: Ross. v PGL England 1-2, scorer: Kris. Goalscorers:

16 - Kris Trajanovski, 8 - Ross Ray, 5 - Justin Hayhurst, Wayne (skip) Smith, 4 - Paul McCluskey, 2 - Jason McAuliffe, 1 - Ross Hayes, Adam Morsi, Leigh Allan, 1 - Andrew Harris, own goal.

Members of the Tour Party: Leigh Allan, (St George's Shepparton), Tyler Ford (Boucher Street, Shepparton), Ian Gordon (Eaglehawk, Bendigo), Andrew Harris (Bell Park, Geelong), Ross Hay (Bell Park, Geelong) Daniel Hayes (Bell Park, Geelong), Justin Hayhurst (Newborough United, Latrobe Valley), Peter Langeveld (North Park Rovers, Swan Hill), Jason McAuliffe (Hamlyn Rangers/Bell Park Geelong), Paul McCluskey (Pegasus/Latrobe Valley), Dawson McLeod (Creswick, Ballarat), Adam Morsi (Northeast United, Warrnambool), Cameron Price (Kyabram, Shepparton), Wayne Smith (Epsom, Bendigo), Peter Sorocuk (Bell Park, Geelong), Kris Trajanovski (Geelong East, Geelong), Paul Haliday (Coach) (Bell Park, Geelong), Derrick Hayes (Manager) (Bell Park, Geelong).

Reeve met the group and headed over to Graham Sharpe at Norman Cross during the very long haul to Edinburgh. For a variety of reasons, the lads did not arrive at the Cairn Hotel but after two in the morning which was just too much.

The game against the Hearts Boys Club had to be cancelled, because the lads were too tired. On Monday, the team went north to Dundee, where it met Dundee United Boys Club on an all-weather pitch. Paul McCluskey was the star man and learned that the lads had not too keen on traditional German breakfasts and supplied cereals and french fries then there was little to fault.

On Friday, October 25, there was an early start to catch the bus to Frankfurt for the flight to London. In London, Peter

"View" carried an article and photograph of the squad.

In the evening, after a very long spell on their feet in the city, the lads met Celtic Boys Club at Scotstoun Showgrounds under lights. Celtic was a very strong and skilful side and ran out a 3-0 winner. As so often happened, the big name rather overawed the lads in the first half but in the second they hit back well. Paul McCluskey had a shot cleared off the line. Ross Hay crossed the outside of the post and then chipped the keeper only to have the full back head the ball away just as it was about to go in. Given that his great-grandfather played for Celtic, this was one team against which Ross would have loved to score.

That night the lads joined the families of the Ayr Boswell

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That night the lads joined the families of the Ayr Boswell

Polish stars on way; House to Springvale

Jan Wyczyslyk and Jan Kotewa are the men Polonia hopes will enable it to challenge for the 1986 State League championship.

Wyczyslyk, 28, is a striker currently playing with Polish Second Division club Korona Kielce. Kotewa, 27, is a defender from First Division club Zagłębie Sosnowiec.

But before both players can arrive in Australia, Polonia has to gain permanent residency for star striker Janusz Przybyla. If it fails, only one of the overseas players will be signed.

Kaz Kulak, a former First Division player in Poland, former Sydney Olympic and Canterbury coach and director of junior coaching at Sydney City Hakoah last year, is Polonia's new coach. He replaced Eddie Reid before Christmas. Kaz Kowalew, former Polonia star player and coach, has replaced Doug Gregory as assistant coach.

Polonia midfeilder Davie Gibson has been training with Springvale City. His contract with Polonia is up and there's \$4,500 on his head. Defender John Little, up until last week, had trained only trained only once this year, but 1985 best and fairest, Kevin Innes, has been training regularly and Leszek Gregorczyk at last looks like shrugging off the injury problems which have plagued him since Polonia brought him here from Poland two seasons ago.

• Greg House was expected to join Springvale as we went to press. The lighthearted strikers had agreed terms and his transfer from Melbourne-Croatia was expected to be ratified by Soccer House.

The Vales, despite the retirement of coach Bobby McLachlan, are looking for dark horses for the championship. McLachlan will cringe when he reads this for the wee man has been dusting off the plaudites he learned by heart when Green

Guyl started his meteoric rise in the early 1980s. You know the sort of comment:

"We're just working hard, everyone at the club, to try to do a wee bit better than we did last year...."

"We're going about our business quietly. It's a big job and there's a lot to be done...."

"It's heartening to know that quite a few players are showing a bit of interest in joining us...."

McLachlan's mastery of understatement does little to mask the fact that he has big plans for Springvale this year.

Among others, Effie Cassar could figure prominently in those plans. Green Guyl also is interested in Cassar but he

is little winger has a good job in Morwell and seems fairly settled there.

Billy Whiteside was about to sign for Springvale as we went to press. Neil Garvey hadn't been sighted at training up until the end of last week, Ian Loughnane, transfer-listed by Fawkner at \$2,500 negotiator,

has been training with the Vales. John Luotonen looks like joining Ringwood United Siberian and Fitzpatrick could move to Mornington. Mark Matthews won't be returning from New Zealand. Robin Settle and Eddie Bell have returned from overseas and have been training well.

• And don't be surprised to see big Gus Macleod returning to the State League scene. The former Green Gully, Footscray J.U.S.T. and Croydon goalscorer played with Prahran Celtic last year but looks like being on the move.

Macleod is McLachlan's assistant coach so there's little likelihood of him joining a rival State League club.

• Kevin Lloyd has been training with Heidelberg Alexander Fawke, coach Peter Boyle, was hopeful of signing Lloyd, who played with Green Gully last year on loan from Brunswick Juventus. What we hear is that Lloyd will get away from Juventus to Fawkner for \$3,000 and the asking price will be considerably higher should Heidelberg decide to sign him.

Frank McAleer, Boyle's assistant, has fully recovered from the sunstroke which forced him into hospital for a short spell two weeks ago and Ian Tuffield, complete with wide-brimmed hat, returns from the US on February 28.

• Apparently, Ian's been following the rodeo circuit over there and is right into it but if he comes back talking like John Wayne, I'll put him on the transfer list," Boyle quipped.

Bruno Cozzella has made himself available for all training sessions after previously bowing to business pressures. Joe Palinkas has signed a new contract and Boyle was hopeful of Colin Quigley agreeing terms this week.

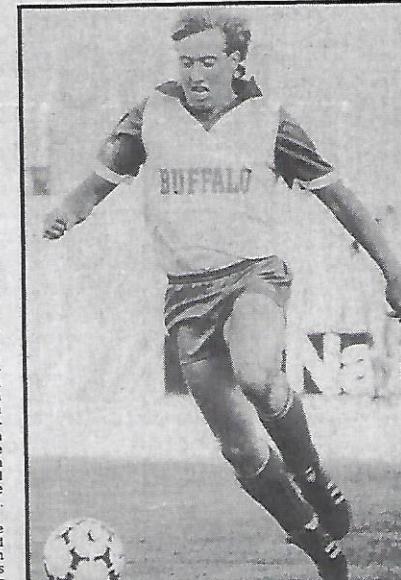
• Croydon has signed Peter Blasby from Morwell. Fees for \$4,000 and Andy Humble out free from Box Hill. Five Croydon players are transfer listed. Bill Whiteside (at his own request), Alan Kerr (for \$2,500), Tom Brewerton, Davie Singleton and Gary Bates.

Kerr could join Thomastown, Broadmeadows and Sunbury have shown interest in Brewerton while Moorabbin is rumored to be keen on signing Bates.

Ace Croydon striker Dave Brogan returns from overseas next week.

• Thomastown's new play-er-coach, George McMillan, who was signed from Preston Makedonia for \$5,000, is keen to have Kerr in his side but Thomastown and Croydon haven't reached agreement over the size of Kerr's transfer fee. Thomastown feels that \$1,500 would be a more realistic figure for the former Melbourne Croatia and George Cross player.

Verechia: \$5000



Peter Verechia, (pictured) dynamic striker or midfielder of Victorian State League club Box Hill, is for sale at only \$5000.

He requested a transfer after failing to agree terms with Box Hill.

Verechia, 23, has been Box Hill's top scorer twice and runner-up twice in the past four years.

He has been with the club since he was a junior.

Verechia played in midfield before he moved to the forward line.

He can be contacted on (03) 235 4273 (work) or (03) 878 9648 (home).

Hobson: \$2500

• Talented left back Gary Hobson is on the move. Hobson has asked State League club Fawkner to place him on the transfer list. His contract with Fawkner has expired and there's just \$2,500 on his head.

We understand that Fawkner refused permission for Hobson to train with rival club Springvale City, forcing Hobson to prepare for the coming season on his own.

Hobson, 24, has played at Fawkner for two seasons. He's a former Croydon City player. He can be contacted at work on 561 5022 or at home on 870 2831.

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Platini—a legend, sorcerer and king

World Cup count-down: No. 1-FRANCE by Paul Moon

Magic midfield may bring Cup to Europe

In June, 1984, the French triumphed in the European Championship with a style impressive enough to suggest they could become the first Old World side to win a World Cup tournament staged in Latin America.

But they struggled in their qualifying group, which they eventually won despite suffering defeats in East Germany and Bulgaria.

The form displayed during the 2-0 win over Yugoslavia that clinched a berth in Mexico suggests France is almost back to its devastating best, however.

If so, it will at least provide the World Cup host with many of its most exhilarating moments.

France boasts strength throughout its ranks; but it is the midfield which marks it as exceptional.

Michael Platini has but one challenger (Diego Maradona) for the title of most gifted player in the game today, while fellow linkmen Jean Tigana, Alain Giresse and Thierry Tisseau would win places in many World elevens.

French exuberance and flair will gain them the support of many neutrals in Mexico, as will memories of the wretched misfortune suffered during defeat by West Germany in the 1982 semi-final.

That game in Seville was only France's second appearance at the penultimate stage. The first came in 1958, when Pele's Brazil crushed them 5-2.

Since then, they have deserved a very special place in World Cup history, for it was the energy and initiative of French administrator Jules Rimet (then FIFA president) which paved the way for the first tournament back in 1930.

Success for the "Tricolores" would then be appropriate from a historical viewpoint and certainly the game would benefit immensely if such a magnificent team were to set the trend as we approach the 1990s.

Possible squad:

JOEL BATS (Paris St Germain): Appears to have resolved France's goalkeeping problem, which had long been considered a permanent flaw. Born in a rugby stronghold, he is a former youth international and was previously with Sochaux and Auxerre.

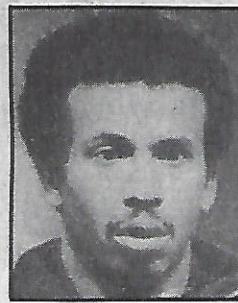
ALBERT RUST (Sochaux): A surprise choice as third-string goalkeeper for the successful 1984 European championship final squad, he won an Olympic gold medal in the same year and is now established as understudy to Bats. He actually kept Bats out of the Sochaux first team when both were with the club, but at the beginning of 1986 had yet to make his senior international debut.

PHILIPPE BERGEROUX (Toulouse): The likeliest choice for the third goalkeeper's berth in Mexico, despite being notoriously suspect dealing with crosses. His three international appearances (at the time of writing) are well spaced — in 1978, 1980 and 1984.

ALAIN GIRESSE (Bordeaux): Forceful left winger-cum-striker who appeared in 3rd place play-off during 1982 World Cup finals when only 20. He has been used primarily as substitute of late.



• France, back row: Bossis, Domergue, Genghini, Battiston, Bats, Fernandez. Front: Lacombe, Giresse, Platini, Tigana, Six.



• Jean Tigana

PATRICK BATTISTON (Bordeaux): A veteran of the 1978 and 1982 World Cup finals (being the victim of that infamous challenge by Toni Schumacher during the second), he can play as full back, stopper or sweeper, but prefers the latter role. Has previously been attached to Metz and St. Etienne.

YVON LE ROUX (Nantes): His power in the air was sadly missed by France when he dropped last year, as a result of poor performances in the French league.

MANIME BOSSIS (Racing Club Paris): France's most capped player of all time is an accomplished sweeper who joined his present, second division club from Nantes when he served for 12 years. Will be 31 three days before the World Cup final.

MICHEL PLATINI (Juventus): European Footballer of the Year for the past three years, World Footballer of the Year during past two years; it would be appropriate for this brilliant attacking midfield player to cap his career with a World Cup winners' medal. Played for Nancy-Lorraine and St. Etienne before moving to Juventus in a \$3 million transfer deal during 1982, then inspired the famous Turin club to the one trophy which had previously eluded them — the European Champions Cup. He will be 31 on Jan. 21.

THIERRY TISSEAU (Bordeaux): Commenced international career as full back, but is now usually employed in midfield. His transfer from Nantes in 1983 very nearly caused a riot in that town.

JEAN TIGANA (Bordeaux): Another integral part of the famed French midfield, he is a native of Mali (West Africa), but was raised in the slums of Marseille (one of a family of 10). The former Callais, Tolon and Lyon player will be 31 on June 23 — 6 days before the World Cup final.

BERNARD GENCHINI (Monaco): Out of favor since the 1984 European Championship, but his experience (over 20 caps) and ability should win him a place in the final squad of 22 for Mexico, despite a glut of midfield talent.

BRUNO BELCONE (Monaco): Forceful left winger-cum-striker who appeared in 3rd place play-off during 1982 World Cup finals when only 20. He has been used primarily as substitute of late.

JEAN-FRANCOIS DOMERQUE (Toulouse): A hero of the 1984 European championship, scoring two vital goals in semi-final with Portugal from left back, yet has

On the eve of his team's vital World Cup tie against Yugoslavia, French captain Michel Platini pledged he would end a barren period of almost a year without scoring a goal for his country. The following night, he kept his word. A masterly free-kick and a stinging

left-foot shot carried France to victory and a place in the finals in Mexico and enlarged Platini's international tally to a record 39 goals.

Asked how he produced such inspired goals, Platini replied: "I don't know. I closed my eyes."

It was a simple, typical

From DEREK PARR
in PARIS

ly-disarming answer from a man who has been elevated to the status of a legend in French sport.

Platini, like the favorite French comic-strip hero Asterix, is a star who can be relied on to outwit foreign invaders when danger threatens, a soccer sorcerer with a sense of occasion.

Platini has illuminated the French team for a decade. In addition to the past three World Cup final tournaments, he guided the French to triumph at the 1984 European Championships.

Mexico will mark the end for several of the seasoned core of players assembled by Michel Hidalgo — but there has been no final word from Platini, now past the soccer player's landmark of his 30th birthday.

Platini played and scored on his debut in Hidalgo's first match in charge against Czechoslovakia in Paris in March 1978 and a World Cup winner's medal is one of the few prizes in soccer missing from his collection.

The man in the number 10 shirt won the French Cup with Nancy and the League with Saint-Etienne before joining Juventus after the 1982 World Cup.

Italian league and cup titles and European Cup Winners' Cup and Champions' Cup wins followed.

He was European Footballer of the Year three times.

Television and advertising contracts earned him a second fortune off the pitch.

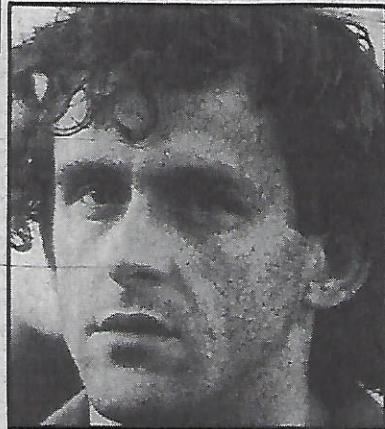
Recently Platini flew into Paris and stayed long enough to receive yet another trophy — as the Italian league's top scorer for a third consecutive season — before hastening to a training session with Juventus.

It was a typical episode in the life-style of a man who, last April, was created Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, a tribute to the rare panache of a man who had led France in its conquest of Europe.

His contribution in turning a fine team into an exceptional one mirrored the influences of Pele on Brazil, Franz Beckenbauer on West Germany and Johan Cruyff on Holland.

"The French team resembles Platini. One can even say is his, it is so bound to the output of its king," proclaimed the weekly "France Football".

"It breathes through him and, it may be said in



• The great man himself — Michel Platini

passing, it is certainly a goslavia, a last-gasp semi-final winner against Portugal and the opening goal in the 2-0 final victory over Spain.

Inevitably he was named player of the tournament.

In January 1985, Platini said there was an 80 per cent chance he would end his playing career in 1986.

After last May's disastrous riot at the European Cup final in Brussels, he said he thought he would stop after the World Cup.

But, for now, France and Platini are happy to focus their thoughts on Mexico.

In the qualifying program, France had a tough time against Bulgaria, East Germany and Yugoslavia in European group four and Platini admitted they had not played well against Yugoslavia. But, he pointed out: "The essential thing is we know we can improve a lot."

World Cup groups

GROUP A: Italy, Bulgaria, Argentina, South Korea.

GROUP B: Mexico, Belgium, Paraguay, Iraq.

GROUP C: France, Canada, USSR, Hungary.

GROUP D: Brazil, Spain, Algeria, Northern Ireland.

GROUP E: West Germany, Uruguay, Scotland, Denmark.

GROUP F: Poland, Morocco, Portugal, England.

How they got there

v Luxembourg 4-0 (away) 6-0 (home), v Bulgaria 1-0 (home) 0-2 (away), v East Germany 2-0 (home) 0-2 (away), v Yugoslavia 0-0 (away) 2-0 (home).

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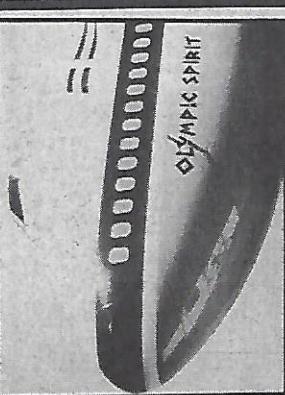
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• Heidelberg's Peter Tsolakis (left), smallest player in the National League, wins a header against George Petrov of Preston Makedonia.



• Sunshine-George Cross, defender Tyrone James, former team-mate of George Best and Bobby Moore at Fulham.



• Charlie Yankos (right), smallest player in the National League, is tackled by Gary Price. Now they're team-mates at West Adelaide Helias.



• Zarko Odzakov — star of Sydney Croatia.

1986 Olympic Airways NSL fixtures

	SOUTHERN DIVISION	NORTHERN DIVISION	SOUTHERN DIVISION	NORTHERN DIVISION	SOUTHERN DIVISION	NORTHERN DIVISION	SOUTHERN DIVISION	NORTHERN DIVISION	SOUTHERN DIVISION	NORTHERN DIVISION
ROUND 1 — 29/30 March	Bris. Lions v Poisray JUST v Heidelberg	Adelaide City v Canterbury Int. Mon. Ws. Adel. Hel.	Melb. Helias v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 2 — 5/6 April	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	St. George v Bris. City	St. George v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 3 — 10 — 14/15 June	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	St. George v Bris. City	St. George v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 4 — 16/17 August	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	St. George v Bris. City	St. George v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 5 — 21/22 September	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	St. George v Bris. City	St. George v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 6 — 26/27 October	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	St. George v Bris. City	St. George v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. Lions	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 7 — 17/18 May	Bris. Lions v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Bris. Lions v Bris. City	Bris. Lions v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Bris. Lions v Bris. City	Bris. Lions v Bris. City	Bris. Lions v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 8 — 24/25 May	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 9 — 7/8 June	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 10 — 14/15 June	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 11 — 19/20 July	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 12 — 2/3 August	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 13 — 9/10 August	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City
ROUND 14 — 16/17 August	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Canberra v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Wollongong v Bris. City	Heidelberg v Bris. City

National League clubs and State League champions will contest the first round of the National Cup on March 23.
Mellita Pagels will be NSW's representative, as Canterbury Marrickville the NSW State League champion, now an NSL club. Melita Eagles won the NSW grand final, now an NSL club. Other rounds of the National Cup will be played on April 27, June 1, July 27 and the final on August 17. Dates for the NSL top five series are yet to be confirmed. All league matches will be at 3pm on Sunday this season, except where stated. Inter. Monaro will play at Sefton Oval except for rounds six, nine, 11 and 16 at Bruce Stadium.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

NORTHERN DIVISION



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Wests give
Hellas

1985 blues

Man of the match:
ANDY ESPOSTO
(West Subs)

West Suburbs 1
S.M. Hellas 0
Scorer: Bobby McGuinness 52nd min.

History is repeating itself for South Melbourne Hellas.

The giant of Victorian soccer lost its first two games of the 1985 Buffalo Cup — to Croatia and Makedonia — and managed only draws with Green Gully and Polonia.

However, it went on to finish top of the NSW Southern Division ladder.

So while Western Suburbs celebrate a well-earned gaint-killing victory, Hellas fans do not yet have cause for concern. Better times lie ahead.

The intriguing question is: Can these players lead the league for a third successive season (without Crino and Zvenden) or do they need reinforcement?

Coach John Margaritis no doubt will have a clear answer by the end of the next competition.

In order to cover for Crino's move to Cyprus, Margaritis switched Ken Murphy from his customary left-flank position to cen-

tral midfield, alongside Richard Miranda, with greater success. But while Murphy worked like a Trojan, he does not have the flair of Crino. Vlado Bozinovski, pushed out to the left, was replaced at half time by Peter Vardaxis who, however, insisted on playing inside his own half and in front of his full back, until very late in the game, when he finally had a scoring opportunity. No doubt he'll be more confident in his next senior appearance.

More attacking effort will be required from the entire midfield this season, because Egan and Brown will be marked more tightly than ever. Margaritis had midfield scorers last year in Paul Wade, Mike Petersen and Fabio Incantalo. Will he find similar at Hellas?

Wests are probably still celebrating — especially Bobby McGuinness, a one-time Hellas discard who scored the winning goal in the 52nd minute.

Lest you believe that this was a lucky win, be aware that Wests could have won by three!

Marguiness muffed a close-range chance, as did Jed Stenson, and both were set up by David Smallman, who moved from midfield to attack from his second match with Wests.

Andy Esposito and Steve Dimovski were flawless in their marking of Brown and Egan, and they were given



Steve Kakantonis
sterling support from George Beattie.

But it was a poor match, marred by free kicks and throw-ins galore and eight bookings which further hampered the game. Of the total 70 minutes, only about 40 were devoted to actual playing time.

The Western Suburbs defence played the offside trap very well, but a brilliant



South Melbourne Hellas, from left, standing: Vardaxis, Russell, Anezakis, Postecoglou, Blair, McDowell, Miranda, Bozinovski. Front: Kanesoulis, Murphy, Egan, Brown, Laumets, Halford, Mihos. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

crossball from Miranda to Bobby Russell, overlapping on the right, split the back line and a quick and certain as Russell's cut-back found Halford unmarked. Goalkeeper Nick Apostolidis, however, reacted like a cat in making the save.

In the 21st minute, Steve Blair headed the ball square, Egan chased it in, but under pressure and while jumping, he volleyed past the post.

Four minutes later, Wests showed a glimpse of things to come as Smallman put McGuinness through only to see McGuinness fall in a confrontation with goalkeeper Peter Laumets.

Bozinovski galloped down the right in the 30th minute, with Murphy, Egan and Brown calling for the cross.

Instead, Bozinovski shot from 30 metres at an acute angle — a contributing factor to his later substitution.

Hellas continued to make mistakes. Murphy came storming in, towards a square ball from Egan but poor communication be-

tween players, resulted in Brown taking the shot. It was repelled to Halford who side-stepped his opponent but saw his shot stopped by Apostolidis.

At the other end, Loumets made a fine save to stop a close-range shot from Stevenson, leaving the score sheet blank at half time.

Hellas was forcing all the corners, but Wests rarely looked troubled. Rather, it was the Hellas defence that looked shaky, and McGuinness should have taken advantage by crossing to unmarked Steve Kakantonis in the 50th minute, rather than trying a long-range angled shot that inevitably failed.

McGuinness made amends, however, when he scored two minutes later, with a perfect low drive after build-up play by Stenson and Smallman.

McGuinness repaid by getting past George Lekkas and forcing Apostolidis to make another save.

racing away on a through ball from Brown, shot over the bar.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Match details

MELBOURNE CROATIA 3 (McIntosh 23rd, Ward 29th, Markova 42nd) **GREEN GULLY 2** (Lewis 60th, 69th). Crowd: about 2000. Referee: Chris Bambridge. Cautions: Lucchesi, Cannell (GG); Redbridge (MC).

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje 7 (Govic 45th); Deanovic 6, Curcio 7 (Redmond 49th), McIntosh 7, Hannah 7 — Biskic 7, Gojevic 7, Campbell 7, Bonac 6 — Markovac 7, Ward 7 (Curvo 52nd). Coach: Mirko Bleiberg.

GREEN GULLY: Danys 7 — Vizzini 7, Murray 6, Cannell 6, Drakeford 6 — Lucchesi 6, Flavel 5, Carter 7 — Cumming 6, McLennan 5 (Barchella 65th). Paul Lewis 7. Coach: George Murray.

FOOTSCRAY JUST 2 (Nedeljkovic 22nd, Latif 33rd) **HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER 2** (Mc Ge 46th, Kotsakidis 69th). Referee: Evan Venios 7. Cautions: Latif (FJ); Metaxas (Heid).

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Vojnovic 7 — Oblik 7, L Barjaktarevic 7, Karic 7 — Bajic 7 (Inj R Barjaktarevic 65th), Belic 8, Tapai 7, Nedeljkovic 6 — Lazopoulos 6, Latif 6. Coach: Zdravko Lujic (caretaker).

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER: Oliver 7 — McKie 7, Hunter 6, Marley 8, Kotsakidis 7 — Selimidis 6, Christopoulos 6 — Metaxas 7, Higgins 4, Deligiannis 4 (Tzimatzis 47th), Tsokatis 7. Coach: Brian Galway.

CROYDON: Blasby 4 — Brown 3 (Tait 60th), Taylor 3, O'Reilly 3, Tansey 3 — MacDonald 4, Ollerton 3 (Christogeorgis 3, half time), MacLean 3, Beech 4 — French 3 (O Shea 50th), Humble 4. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 4 (Parton 5th, Gilder 9th, Lennon 15th, Mitter 88th) **CROYDON CITY 0**. Referee: Sam Zoumas 7, injured, sub: Chris Bambridge 58th. Cautions: Humble (C), Taylor (GC).

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS: Kotsakidis 6 — Taylor 7, James 8, Parton 8, Campbell 8 — Faulkner 7, MacLaren 7, Bain 7 — Mitter 8, Glider 7, Lennon 6. Coach: John Gardiner.

CROYDON: Blasby 4 — Brown 3 (Tait 60th), Taylor 3, O'Reilly 3, Tansey 3 — MacDonald 4, Ollerton 3 (Christogeorgis 3, half time), MacLean 3, Beech 4 — French 3 (O Shea 50th), Humble 4. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

WESTERN SUBURBS 1 (McGuinness 52nd) **SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 0**. Referee: John Fraser 6. Cautions: Murphy (SMH), Kakantonis (WS), Esposito (WS), Dimovski (WS), Miranda (WS), Brown (SMH), Hemill (WS), Lekkas (WS).

WESTERN SUBURBS: Apostolidis 8 — Beattie 8, Dimovski 8, Esposito 8, Lekkas 6 — Tuck 5 (McCoskey 63rd), Kakantonis 6, Sonnen 7, Hamill 7 — McGuinness 7. Coach: Jim Konidis.

HELLAS: Laumets 7 — Russell 8, Blair 6, McDowell 6, Postecoglou 6 — Halford 5, Miranda 7, Murphy 8, Bozinovski 4 (Vardaxis 4, half time) — Egan 5, Brown 5. Coach: John Margaritis.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 2 (Cole 16th, Smith 42nd) **BOX HILL 0**. Crowd: about 1500. Referee: Bambridge 5. Cautions: Humble, Petrov (PM); Henneberry 6.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Trajanedes 8 — I Roodhouse 7, Dobson 7, Opasinc 6, McLennan 7 — Heys 7 (Inj Brian 53rd), Cole 7, Petrov 6, van Egmont 7 — Smith 7, Lane 9. Coach: Bill Murray.

BOX HILL: McKinlay 7 — McPhee 7, Davidson 6, McMillan 7, A Roodhouse 6 — Azzopardi 7, Hennessy 7 Taylor 6 (Verechia 45th), Burton 7 — Lawler 7, Griffin 5. Coach: Keith Webster.

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1 (Potensson pen 51st) **MORWELL FALCONS 0**. Referee: Sam Zoumas 7.

JUVENTUS: Mariana 7 — Durakovic 7 (sent off 54th), Lewis 8, Brown 7, Campbell 7 — Palatsidis 6, Petersen 5, Wade 5, Zinzi 5 — Sweeney 7, Incalta 7. Coach: Lee McKinstry.

MORWELL FALCONS: Prezioso 7 — Palermo 7, Tuttili 5, Burns 7 — Cassar 4, Bar 7, O'Connor 5, Maccari 5 (sent off 54th), Cesar 55th), E Cassar 6 — J van Baar 6, A Cassar 4. Coach: Joe Sciberras.

SECTION A

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
JUVENTUS	2	0	0	3	0	4
CROATIA	2	0	0	5	3	4
W. SUBURBS	1	0	1	1	2	3
GREEN GULLY	0	1	1	2	3	1
Morw. Falcons	0	1	1	0	1	1
Hellas	0	0	2	1	3	0

SECTION B

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GEORGE CROSS	2	0	0	5	0	4
MAKEDONIA	1	1	0	3	1	3
HEIDELBERG	0	2	0	3	3	2
CROYDON	1	0	1	1	4	2
J.U.T.	0	1	1	2	3	1
Box Hill	0	0	2	0	3	0

LAURIE SCHWAB



Cross looking good

Suburbs sign Grecia

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Sunshine-George Cross should maintain its fine Buffalo Cup record and edge closer to securing a semi-final berth when it clashes with Box Hill tonight (Wednesday) in the second game of a double header at Olympic Park No.1.

The Falcons will be without striker Peter Verechia, who has pulled a thigh muscle. Verechia also is on the transfer list after failing to reach terms with the club over a new contract. Verechia successfully negotiated a maximum transfer fee clause, a one year contract and no option, however, Box Hill's refusal to pay signing-on fees this year proved a stumbling block.

George Cross shan't win but there will be no respite for its players before their next Buffalo Cup match for the first team squad heads off to Albion this weekend for a training camp. The players will be staying at Lake Hume Resort and even though coach John Gardiner has been known to have a bet now and again he won't be letting the lads run amok on the poker machines.

Western Suburbs will be made to fight every inch of the way against Morwell Falcons in the first match (tonight) but should emerge triumphant.

Falcons failed in their bid to sign Dennis Boland, the former Footscray J.U.S.T. goalkeeper (he's set to join Frankston Pines) but has signed another J.U.S.T. "old boy" — Milutin Cacic. Suburbs paid \$1,800 for Cacic's transfer from Williamstown however youngster Nick Apostolidis should line up in goal for tonight's game.

Suburbs also have signed 28 year old Scottish midfielder Dennis McLeod, a former Sunderland and Albion Rovers player. McLeod is expected to arrive within a fortnight.

Liam McCluskey is another new face at Suburbs. He scored 17 goals last season for Victorian League club Geelong and joined Suburbs on a free. He's only 19 but Suburbs coach Jim Kondilis is impressed with the young forward.

Lean times

M. Croatia 3 Green Gully 2

Scorers: McIntosh 23rd,
Ward 29th, Markovac 42nd
(MC); Paul Lewis 60th, 69th
(GG).

Some Green Gully fans haven't been happy with form of newcomer Gordon Flavell. More Croatia fans aren't happy with their club signing Luka Bonacic, who guested with Footscray J.U.S.T. last year, and Bonacic himself is rumored to be far from happy.

The story going the rounds of the press box at Olympic Park last week was that Bonacic has been taking a lot of "stick" from a group of Croatia fans and there even was talk that he might be keen to switch to Sydney Croatia. What a bombshell that would be.

Gully fielded a far stronger line-up than the one which suffered to a 0-0 draw with Morwell Falcons in the previous Buffalo Cup match. However, there were two big surprises in the Gully side as stopper Steve McLellan played centre forward and Kenny Drakeford played left back.

The Drakeford saga is far from over if South Melbourne Hellas gets its way. Hellas still claims that it has a hold on Drakeford, who last played there in 1978, and is threatening to take the matter before the ASF. One wonders when, if ever, a club's hold on a player becomes invalid, especially when the player is cleared to play in three other countries, as is the case with Drakeford. One also wonders how strong the Hellas argument would be in court should Drakeford pursue the restraint of trade case.

Croatia just announced that Buffalo Cup preliminary round games only are 35 minutes each way for it surrendered a 3-0 lead in a fashion which must have disturbed coach Miron Bleiberg.

Gully goalie Lou Denys saved shots from Steve Gojevic and Bonacic before Croatia opened its account in the 23rd minute. A superb chip from Jim Campbell was chested down by Josip Biskic but Biskic's shot was blocked for a corner. He took it, sending the ball to the near post where the incoming Dave McIntosh powered it in and with a stunning header.

Man of the Match:
DAVE MCINTOSH
(M. Croatia)

Six minutes later, Robert Markovac did well on the right of the Gully area and surrounded by two defenders. His cross picked out Gary Ward whose well placed low header gave Denys no chance.

Gully looked well beaten when Markovac, running onto a through ball from Gojevic, slammed a low shot past Denys and into the far corner in the 42nd minute.

Paul Lewis's reply in the 60th minute looked little more than a consolation effort. Dragi Djordjevic's initial pass went straight to Lewis who rounded McIntosh at the second attempt then slipped the ball in between Zeljko Govic and the near post. Govic had replaced Mirko Runje 15 minutes earlier with Croatia in complete control.

Flavell played the ball wide to substitute Fab Barichello on the left. Barichello's square ball into the area was sidefooted in by Lewis but any hope of a shock comeback was dashed with the final whistle sounding a minute later.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

Campelj leads in voting

Voting in the VSF Buffalo Gold Cup best player award:

Croydon v Box Hill: 3. McDonald (Croy), 2. Ramos (BH), 1. A. Roodehouse (BH).

Green Gully v Morwell Falcons: 3. Basirchello (GG), 2. E. Cassar (MF), 1. Krajacic (GG).

Juventus v Western Suburbs: 3. Wade (J), 2. Lewis (J), 1. Callen (J).

Heidelberg v Makedonia: 3. Tsolakis (H), 2. Dobson (M), 1. Metaxas (H).

George Cross v Footscray J.U.S.T.: 3. Tapai (FJ), 2. Partron (GC), 1. Campelj (GC).

Melbourne Croatia v South Melbourne Hellas: 3. Halford (SMH), 2. Markovic (MC), 0.5 McDowell (SMH), Hannah (MC).

The programme

WEDNESDAY, February 5: 1st GAME: Morwell Falcons v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Sunshine George Cross v Juventus.

FRIDAY, February 7: 1st GAME: South Melbourne Hellas v Green Gully, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Footscray JUST.

SATURDAY, February 8: 1st GAME: Heidelberg v Makedonia, 2nd GAME: Juventus v Melbourne Croatia.

WEDNESDAY, February 12: 1st GAME: Green Gully v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Croydon City.

FRIDAY, February 14: 1st GAME: Melbourne Croatia v Morwell Falcons, 2nd GAME: Hei-

delberg Alexander v Sunshine George Cross.

SATURDAY, February 15: 1st GAME: Footscray JUST v Box Hill, 2nd GAME: Juventus v South Melbourne Hellas.

WEDNESDAY, February 19: 1st GAME: Footscray JUST v Croydon City, 2nd GAME: Juventus v Green Gully.

FRIDAY, February 21: 1st GAME: Heidelberg Alexander v Box Hill, 2nd GAME: South Melbourne Hellas v Morwell Falcons.

SATURDAY, February 22: 1st GAME: Melbourne Croatia v Western Suburbs, 2nd GAME: Makedonia v Sunshine George Cross.

SATURDAY, March 1: Semi Finals.

SATURDAY, March 8: Final.

Halford (SMH), T. van Baar (MF), 2. Train (MF), 1. Bruns (MF), 1. Makovac v Box Hill: 3. Lewis (J), 2. Heyns (M), 0.05 (MC), 0.5 McDowell (SMH).

Croatia v Green Gully: 3. Hannah (C), 2. McIntosh (C), 0.5 Biskic, Markovac (C).

George Cross v Croydon: 3. Campelj (GC), 2. Mitten (GC), 1. Gilder (GC).

South Melbourne Hellas v W. Suburbs: 2. Dimovski, Beattie (WS), 1. Esposito (WS).

Footscray J.U.S.T. v Heidelberg: 3. Karic (FJ), 2. Marley (H), 0.5 L. Barakatvarevic, Belic (FJ).

Progressive votes:

4 — Campelj (GC)

3 — McDonald (Croy), Barichello (GG), Wade (BH), Tsolakis (Heid), Tapai, Karic (FJ),

Halford (SMH), T. van Baar (MF), 2. Train (MF), 1. Bruns (MF), 1. Makovac v Box Hill: 3. Lewis (J), 2. Heyns (M), 0.05 (MC), 0.5 McDowell (SMH).

Croatia v Green Gully: 3. Hannah (C), 2. McIntosh (C), 0.5 Biskic, Markovac (C).

George Cross v Croydon: 3. Campelj (GC), 2. Mitten (GC), 1. Gilder (GC).

South Melbourne Hellas v W. Suburbs: 2. Dimovski, Beattie (WS), 1. Esposito (WS).

Footscray J.U.S.T. v Heidelberg: 3. Karic (FJ), 2. Marley (H), 0.5 L. Barakatvarevic, Belic (FJ).

Having softened its stance, the VSF should go one step further and introduce concessions to the unemployed.

It would be an excellent public relations exercise that also would boost attendances. — LAURIE SCHWAB

Unemployed too?

The Victorian Soccer Federation has bowed to public protest and will admit invalid pensioners to the Buffalo Cup for half price. Previously, concessions had applied only to the age.

Having softened its stance, the VSF should go one step further and introduce concessions to the unemployed.

It would be an excellent public relations exercise that also would boost attendances. — LAURIE SCHWAB



• Jeff Faulkner of George Cross looks on as JUST's Vlatko Belic slides the ball clear.

Pressure on Higgins

J.U.S.T. 2 Heidelberg 2

Scorers: Nedelkovski 22nd, Latif 33rd (J.U.S.T.); McKie 46th, Kotsakidis 69th (Heid).

Andy Higgins apparently played most of his football in England as a central defender yet Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey signed Higgins as a striker.

That could pose problems for both Higgins and Garvey. Problems escalated by the unrest among Heidelberg fans after Higgins's poor display against Footscray JUST.

Higgins is in an unenviable position. He's played one and a half games for Heidelberg, whose fans are little different from fans at other clubs — they are as immature as they are competitive. Higgins much prefers to settle in to his new surroundings and new teammates and the humid conditions in this match did nothing to ease Higgins's situation. The sad fact for the big man is that, as unfair as it may be, he must start performing.

I remember Gus Macleod's early games in Australia for Green Gully. He wasn't impressive. Macleod, of course, went on to become the leading scorer in State League and justify the faith shown in him by the Gully camp and for Higgins's sake, let's hope that a similar fate awaits him.

If Higgins fails, pressure will mount on Garvey to play either Nick Deligniatis or Pashalis Tzintzis. Nothing is more certain.

George Nedelkovski, making his senior debut, gave J.U.S.T. the lead in the 22nd minute with a neat volley past Jeff Oliver. Ossie Latif made it 2-0 in the 33rd minute after running on to Vlatko Belic's pass and thumping a low shot past Oliver and inside the near

Man of the match:
VLATKO BELIC
(J.U.S.T.)

post. Oliver should have saved.

Heidelberg's comeback started in spectacular fashion. Ian McKie let fly from almost 30 metres and the ball thundered into the top far corner of goal. That was in the 46th minute.

It looked like J.U.S.T. would hold out though. A prominent soccer scribe, who had backed J.U.S.T., was at his wit's end every time Heidelberg attacked. He nearly fell off his chair when young Chris Ketsakidis equalised a minute from time.

Ketsakidis showed great close control to check back inside an opponent then slam the ball wide of Zoran Vlasic and J.U.S.T. had blown it.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

Makedonia angry

Makedonia 2 Box Hill 0

Scorers: Cole 16th, Smith 42nd.

Preston Makedonia is getting sick of scoring legitimate goals and having them chalked off by the referee. It happened in Makedonia's 1-1 draw with Heidelberg Alexander in the first round of the Buffalo Gold Cup and it happened again as Makedonia beat Box Hill 2-0 last week.

In the 40th minute, Box Hill defender Gary McPhee tried to pass the ball back to goalkeeper John McKinlay. Makedonia striker Sean Lane intercepted the pass, rounded the advancing McKinlay and squared the ball into the goalmouth. The incoming Graham Heys slumped down and scored but referee Chris Bambridge, heading the signal from his linesman, let's hope that a similar fate awaits him.

If McPhee fails, pressure will mount on Garvey to play either Nick Deligniatis or Pashalis Tzintzis. Nothing is more certain.

In the 34th minute a fine interpassing movement involving George Petrov, van Egmond, Smith and Lane ended with Lane breaking through. He rounded McKinlay only to palm the ball out to the penalty spot where the incoming Gary Cole hit a low, accurate first time shot and it was 1-0.

Dave Azzopardi took the corner he won in the 31st

minute, sending it toward the far post. Phil Griffin, unmarked, misued with his attempted volley but Cole was on hand to head clear in front of Hennedy.

A minute later, Lane, on the left, played the ball inside to Graham Heys who continued its movement toward the right, releasing Nick van Egmond but the young attacking midfielder rushed his shot and the ball sailed well over.

In the 34th minute a fine interpassing movement involving George Petrov, van Egmond, Smith and Lane ended with Lane breaking through. He rounded McKinlay only to palm the ball out to the penalty spot where the incoming Gary Cole hit a low, accurate first time shot and it was 1-0.

Heys broke through in the 39th minute as Box Hill was caught coming out of defence too slowly but McKinlay reacted well to get down and save Heys's shot from 10 metres.

Then came the Lane "off-side" incident.

But there was no chalking off Makedonia's second goal. It came in the 42nd minute after Petrov headed firmly following a Heys corner and Smith headed in at the far post.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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Dullsville!

more enterprise and positive action than was on view during the scoreless first half.

Azzurri called the dull tune in that period when Birkalla goalkeeper Anita Loncar and defender Tom Duncan reigned supreme.

Rothmans Medallist Terry Hayes broke the deadlock when he speared a drive past David Miller in the Azzurri

goal to send Birkalla into the lead.

John Francis, another medallist, snatched the leveller for Azzurri with a clever back-header before Azzurri midfielder Frank Michelon was red-carded following an incident with Hayes.

The expulsion will rule Michelon out of this weekend's clash with Adelaide Hellas.



• Maxwell

Azzurri 1

Birkalla 1

Scorers: Francis (A) 75th; Hayes (B) 61st.

Azzurri, twice winner of the SA Ampol Cup in the past three seasons, will have to improve dramatically on this performance to have its name again engraved on the trophy.

Even allowing for the hot, oppressive conditions, the supporters had a right to expect

more enterprise and positive action than was on view during the scoreless first half.

Azzurri called the dull tune in that period when Birkalla goalkeeper Anita Loncar and defender Tom Duncan reigned supreme.

Rothmans Medallist Terry Hayes broke the deadlock when he speared a drive past David Miller in the Azzurri

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SA CUP DETAILS

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS 5 (Villani 57th and 61st, Maxwell 58th and 72nd, Mullen 76th), **ELIZABETH CITY 1** (Kelly 56th). Referee Bob Kerr 8. Crowd: 2100.

ADELAIDE CITY JUVENTUS Niscio 7, Tobin 8, Luongo 7, Higgins 7, D. Albertson (Russell 8), Santrac 8, Vidmar 6, (Cecere 72nd), Mullen 8, (Mullen 72nd), Caruso 6, (Caruso 76th), Coach: Z. Mata. **ELIZABETH CITY** Alton 7, Mullen 8, Evans 6, (Evans 76th), Johnson 5, Begbie 7, J. Hughes 8, Kelly 7, A. Knowles 7, (Fuda 70th), D. Edwards 6, K. Hughes 6, (Mottram 70th), Doyle 6 (Edwards 58th), Coach: Bobby Hogg.

AZZURRI 1 (Francis 75th), **BIRKALLA 1** (Hayes 61st). Referee Graham Neal 7. Cautions: Thomson (B), Zioa (A).

AZZURRI D. Miller 7, Illic 6, O. Michelon 8, R. Albertson 8, Kitchin 7, Boffa 6 (Roberts 75th), Francis 8, F. Michelon 7 (send off), DeVita 7, Bojczuk 7, Giannetto 8 (Zioa 69th). Coach: Joe Serafini. **BIRKALLA** Loncar 8, Duncan 8, Powers 7, Binning 8, Thomson 6, Burrows 6, (Hamilton 41st, sub, Upton 62nd), Devlin 7, Tobin 7, Woodward 6, Halliday 7, Hayes 8. Substitutions: Hamilton 6 for Burrows 4:1st, Upton for Hamilton. Coach: Rob Jones.

Hunter the first to head south?

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Alan Hunter almost changes his mind about joining Heidelberg-Alexander when he found that Charlie Yankos had left but now that he's made the move, other Queenslanders may follow.

"No-one of my age has switched from Brisbane to Melbourne, and if I do well here, Danny Wright might be the first to join me," Hunter said this week.

"He's the best striker I've ever marked and I predict he'll have a great season this year."

Brisbane City spoke to both Hunter and Wright early this year. Frank Arok wanted to lure Wright to St George Budapest but Wright first wants to complete his electrician's apprenticeship with former Lions star Col Bennett.

It was Bennett, incidentally, whom Hunter replaced in the Brisbane Lions line-up in 1983.

About his disappointment over Yankos's switch to West Adelaide, Hunter said: "I had expected to be playing alongside Charlie. I wanted an experienced guy behind me, which I've never had before.

"My sweepers have been Steve Jackson, Roddy Vasquez, Tony Redmond and Alan Marzalek, guys who are all as inexperienced as I am.

"You can play your own game at right back or left back, but in the middle of the defence, you have to have a team — two players who know each other's game.

"I considered not coming to Melbourne when I heard Yankos had left, but finally I decided that if I wanted to get into the national squad, then it's up to me and me alone.

"Steve Jackson did well in the sweeper's position in my first game for Heidelberg, against Madeleine, and I think George Christensen will get the job."

Hunter, voted 1985 Australian Under 21 Player of the Year, has an equally talented younger brother, David, 18, who has just returned from the Australian schoolboys' tour of Britain.

David, who had six senior games with Lions last season, played left back on the tour and set up the winning goal against Scotland schoolboys. He has entered college in Brisbane, but Everton has offered him the chance to trial there when he is ready. Southampton also is interested.

Alan Hunter started at the age of five with Acacia Ridge in Brisbane and played there right through to senior level until joining Lions in 1982.

In 1980-81, he went to Northern Ireland to visit relatives and played there for the reserve team of Larnac for four months.

Asked to pinpoint the highlights of his career, Hunter said:

"Making the top five in 1984 was one highlight, and so was playing alongside George Best when he guested for us."

"He was a genius with the ball. But he was bitter about the way the British press treated him in regard to his alcoholism."

Playing in the 1982 Queensland youth team that won the national championship in Canberra was another highlight. That team included: Frank Farina, Russell Stewart, Steve Jackson, John Kowtan, Steve Glickeray, Ray Junna, Cameron Bell, Peter McClurg, and Danny Wright — some line-up!

Yet despite all that talent, Queensland had only four players selected to the national youth squad whereas NSW, which lost 1-0 to Queensland in the final, had seven players honored.

Hunter himself remains disappointed that he was never given a chance in the national youth team and he hopes to make up for it by calling the attention of Socceroo coach Frank Arok.

He chose Melbourne, Hunter says, because he liked the Southern Division of the NSL, and wanted to avoid having to adjust to a new league as well as a new club.

"I liked Heidelberg because they're a young, positive sort of team and I admire Brian Garvey's methods," he says. Maldonata, Blacktown, George Cross and Brisbane City also were interested in him before he made the move to Heidelberg for a \$16,000 transfer fee.

Hunter was a striker initially and then a midfielder, before going to defence, hence his exceptional skill and his eagerness to go forward.

He was impressed by Melbourne Croatia in the Buffalo Cup, but expects Heidelberg to mount a strong challenge for the championship.

Hunter sells sports insurance for National Mutual and is based at VFL House near the MCG.

ARMIT VIES WITH BELL; PEARSE TO GERMANY

Finding as replacement for Australian under 21 Player of the Year Alan Hunter may not be as easy as Brisbane Lions officials had thought.

Lions sold Hunter to Heidelberg for \$16,000 and are looking towards last year's reserve team (Premier League) stopper Norm Bell as a replacement. But will the step up a grade be too soon for Bell?

Bell, 24, has been at Lions only 12 months after coming to Richlands from Acacia Ridge, the same club that produced Hunter.

The likeable Castlemeine Peninsula employee was for many years a fullback but was switched to stopper last season. Bell shows all the power and dominance in the air that was a strength of Hunter's game, but is at this stage lacking that aggression which made "Buddy Hunter" such a ruthless stopper.

"Norm has been a little hesitant at training, but I think that is only because he is playing against his team-mates. Norm knows he will be given first chance at Alan's old spot and it will be up to him to make every post a winner," Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith said.

Waiting in the wings for his coach's youth coach, Roland Koch, while on the Queensland-organised Luthansa-Thiess soccer tour to Hennef Sportschule, near Bonn, last October.

Although a rightback with the Premier League top four side, North Star, Pearse impressed Koch when he scored five goals as many games while playing striker on tour.

Pearse had not played up front since his junior days at the Gap.

"I will play away at Cologne if I am given the chance, but although they think I am a striker, hopefully, I will get a run at fullback because that's where I prefer to play," Pearse said.

At this stage, Lions are not panicking — but are understood to have put aside some of the Heidelberg money just in case they have to strengthen the defence.

Meanwhile, Socceroo David Mitchell is not the only Austra-

Good start for Matic

AC-JUVENTUS 5
Elizabeth C 1

Scorers: Juve: Villani 57th & 61st; Maxwell 58th & 72nd; Mullen 76th. EC: Kelly 56th.

Adelaide city Juventus survived a shakey start to recapture its 1985 Ampol Cup form and give new coach Zoran Matic a fine debut victory.

Juventus owed its success to the clinical finishing of Steve Maxwell, Charles Villani and Joe Mullen and the questionable fitness of Elizabeth City opposition.

Juventus always looked the more competent side, but did not find scoring touch until Elizabeth embarrassed its vaunted foe with a Mick Kelly goal 16 minutes into the second half.

Elizabeth went within a whisker of making it 2-0 seconds later, but a lucky clearance was whisked to the opposite and where Charlie Villani outpaced the city defence before rounding Beestanak goalkeeper Andy Allen for the lightning equalizer.

Steve Maxwell made certain that a Joe Mullen goalbound shot reached its target later to present the fans with the third goal of the game in as many minutes.

Maxwell, hero of the SA team's DCM Trophy triumph in India, notched his second goal after Villani had expertly converted a penalty.

But the goal of the match came from hard-running Mullen who dived head-long to connect with an excellent pass from Maxwell.

Juventus achieved its initial 1986 success without captain Bugsy Nyskohus, stopper Neville Flounders and midfielder Brian Northcote (all resting), while Sergio Melita is recovering from a broken wrist suffered in midweek.

Melita is expected to miss the remainder of the night but Juventus WILL NOT retain the Ampol Cup without Nyskohus, Flounders and Northcote.

The experienced trio must play if Juventus is to go all the way to the final.

This is evident despite a good debut against Elizabeth by Gary Higgins of Salisbury United and encouraging performances from young Ernie Luongo, David Alberton and Colin Miller.

Young Steve Niscioli also provided his worth in goal after being preferred to SA custodian Willie McNally, who last week settled a prolonged contract dispute.

Apart from the early new season sharpness of Maxwell, Villani, Adrian Santrac and Mullen, the most pleasing aspect for Juventus fans was the authority with which Alex Bok guidance his inexperienced defenders, Luongo and Alberton.

Elizabeth's major consolation is that it led after 56 minutes of determined opposition, but there remains a huge question mark over its stamina during these 80-minute contests.

Abonyi recruits Groome, Dart

By MIKE RENWICK

Atti Abonyi is full of enthusiasm and looking forward to the 1986 season.

However, contrary to the rumors, he will be in charge of NSW State League club Rockdale and won't be with NSL club St George.

"Frank and Eddie are doing such a great job with the seniors," Abonyi said.

Abonyi said he felt once Arok was certain of his future, he would implement some progressive changes in the national team setup.

"I haven't heard from Frank or Eddie yet at the St George club in three months," he said.

Abonyi said he was quite content to stay with Rockdale for the coming season but he still needs to have some stability for a while," he said.

"The period before I left the game was crazy — too much movement and no consistency," he said.

After a year's leave from the club game from the middle of 1984 to the middle of last year, he received a cry for help from Rockdale.

The lure of the game was too strong and he joined, guiding Rockdale to sixth place in the NSW State League.

Now the former Socceroo international striker wants to stay put with the southern Sydney club for at least a year to "build something substantial".

Abonyi said he had two lean years of club touring when he spent nine months at Canberra City in 1983 and four months at Croatia in 1984.

"When I had my successful years with Croatia, Melita and Riverwood, I was given the time to do something," Abonyi said.

"I was very disappointed when Croatia sacked me in 1984 after just eight rounds.

"What did they expect in such a short time?"

Abonyi's track record as a coach is almost as impressive as his playing record — NSW State League titles with Croatia (twice) and with Melita, and then he took the unheralded Riverwood to second position on a shoestring budget.

At the time he was coaching Croatia again in 1984 in the NSL, he was recruited by national coach Frank Arok to be an assistant during the international series involving Juventus and Manchester United.

Despite his sacking, Arok employed him in a valued role. Abonyi freely admits that it whetted his appetite for international team involvement — whatever the level.

"Being involved with the national sides, and working under Frank at that time gave me a taste of something very special," Abonyi said.

"Just like every player's ambition is to represent his country, every coach's dream is to be in charge of, or to be in-



• Tobin

alan hunter (left) wins a header against graham honeyman of wa-hellas. picture: carlos picasso

By
RICKY
ROSSO

name for himself in West German football.

The brilliant 17-year-old Brisbane fullback, Cameron Pearse, has turned down lucrative approaches from Queensland's two NSL clubs to accept a trial with well-supported Bundesliga club FC Cologne.

Pearse was spotted by the club's youth coach, Roland Koch, while on the Queensland-organised Luthansa-Thiess soccer tour to Hennef Sportschule, near Bonn, last October.

Although a rightback with the Premier League top four side, North Star, Pearse impressed Koch when he scored five goals as many games while playing striker on tour.

Pearse had not played up front since his junior days at the Gap.

"I will play away at Cologne if I am given the chance, but although they think I am a striker, hopefully, I will get a run at fullback because that's where I prefer to play," Pearse said.

At this stage, Lions are not panicking — but are understood to have put aside some of the Heidelberg money just in case they have to strengthen the defence.

They include Damien Butler, who played for Australia in the under 16 World Championships last year; David Hunter, an NSL regular with Lions who captained the Australian schoolboys team to Britain this summer; and Glenn Archer, now an NSL regular at Brisbane City who played for Brisbane last season.

Another tour to Hennef is being planned for this October. For further details telephone



• Attila Abonyi (left) with APIA coach

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by
Manos
Milios

ΜΙΑΦΑΔΟ ΚΑΙ 1986

Άρκετο ένδιαφέρον παρουσιάζουν οι δύναμες τού Κυπέλλου Μπάσκο πού γίνονται στο ΟΑΚ μετά Πάρκ.

Έπειτα φυσικά άπο το ένδιαφέρον έχουμε κι ερμηνείς έκπληξες, όπως απότιν τον περασμένον Βαθμέτον ήπου ή "Ελλάς ντερπούτιστική" διότι έναν θαυμαστό Πανελλήνιο καί βγήκε με σα άπο τον έμαυτον χώρο ήττημένη.

Μπορεί δι προσωπικής της "Ελλάς ντερπούτιστική" διότι η μητένα σε σφένδες έδινε ως μή σχενδάνει την ή δημοφιλή τον ποδοσφαιρικό είναι αστή.

"Η μητέλη είναι στρογγυλή καί γυρίζει κι ζητάει στον πάτηση της μαζί διδάσκει δέν πάζουν σωστά, τότε μαρτυράει έρχεται ή θέτει.

Άρα το περασμένο Σάββατο δέν μπορούμε να το πούμε έκπληξη. Γιατί για δύοσ ήταν μέσα στο "Ολύμπικ Πάρκο, τό είδαν σαν ένα φυσιολογικό έκπληξη.

"Ο Πανελλήνιος έφεσε κι "έδινε φορές μονά στην ένταση, έναν ή Ελλάς σπάνια πάτησε την έστια τον έπειρον Ηλιού Από σπάλην διελατησει.

Μπρέβο Πανελλήνιε... Μπρέβο ξέρινε Κουνδήλι με την ίδια σου.

TZASST - ΜΕΓΑΣ ΤΑ ΜΟΙΡΑΣΤΗΚΑΝ ΟΔΑ

"Άν καλ προπρόθινο ή ήταν 2-0 στο Α' μέρος πού και φαντάσθην δια είχε έρευνασμένη τη νίκη, ή τις παραχώρη τον Γιάννη στην έπανθληση πάρε το παιχνίδι έπειτα της καί κατέφερε νά κάνει το σκορ 2-2 πού ήταν καί τέ τελικό.

Το δια τον ιμπρούμπο τον Γιάννη ήταν μαχητικό και πειρατήριας στο Β' μέρος, δεχόνται καθηρέθη δια διαλέγοντας με την πάροδο τον χρόνο ήδη δημιουργήσει το "κάτι ελλο". Διδάσκεται στις διάδεσσες τον ίδιον ήδη την ίδια στιγμή.

Σύγχρονος οι φιλαδέλφοι τον ήδη πρέπει να διεμενούν δια καί με την έπανθληση έκπληξη μένουν. Άλλωστε ή ήταν δέν είναι ήδη την ίδια.

ΕΝΑΣ ΠΡΩΤΗΝ ΑΞΙΩΝ ΗΓΕΤΕΣ ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣ...

Πρόσφατα στο Σάββατο συνάντηση του πρόσην

πετυχημένο πρέβερο τού Σάββατου "Ολύμπικ Τζέρι Πετενέλη.

Μέντο τέτοιο ένθρηπο έχεις να συντηθείς μπλάκια. Κάτι διως πού ήθελε άπο καλόρ νά τον ρωτήσω ήταν σχετικά με τον έκει ήπο τον διοτό το Πετενέλη περιστούτερο αποτύπωση είδε παρέ βοήθεια.

Νέ τι μιού είπε για το δέμα αντός: - Από τον καρό πού πήρε το "Ολύμπικ στά χέρια μου βοήθησε μάτι απότροπον λαθαλεύσας δες" αντός πού τούς βοήθησε ή τώρα νά έχουν μια έμφερμα και μού είπαν: "Πετενέλη λη κάνει πού θέλεις και θέλεις ήδη στοιχείο πρέβερος..."

"Ενώ πού έχει το "Ολύμπικ γιατί βρομείται έβαλα σποτ νά μη το πρόσθιν, ούτε νά κάνω προβολή στον έναντο μου. Προτίμησα νά μη με συντοπόδρουν έβαλ νά κερδίσω τον κόσμο κου τον μου. Σ' απότον πίστευα καί σ' απότον πιστεύει... Έτσι καί πάντα μου ήδη πρόσθιν καί τελικά ήδη πρόσθιν.

"Βασικά με διντήσεις συνθήσεις κατέφερα νά φέρω στον σπλαγχνό τρέλα ικέτελα καί νά έχει έναν διονυσιακό σημείο πού νά το έναντον οι άντιπαλοι καί νά το υπολογίζουν.

ΧΡΗΣΤΟΣ ΚΑΡΑΟΣ: ΔΥΟ ΑΟΓΙΑ ΜΕ ΤΟΝ ΗΓΕΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΑΝΟΑΣΤΙΚΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΤΟΝ ΧΙΑ

Προσγειώνεται καί πεπειραμένος είναι δι νέος πρεπέρτο τον Καϊτρόν ΧΙΑ Χρήστος Σάρλος δι δύο πατούς μεγάλη με τον διαλεκτόνος συνέργειας του φέτος ήδη προσπαθείς για την καλή προσέλατον του συλλόγου.

Το Καϊτρόν ΧΙΑ φέτος ήδη πάτει στην Γ' κατηγορία τον Βικτώριαν Δική καί δύο πατούς είναι την ίδια σημείο.

Πέρυσι ήδης κερδίσαμε δύο τα ντέρμπια καί καρέκλας βαθύμος στον πελεκτισμόν.

"Ηταν βασικά σφάλματα πού τά πληρέστηκαν.

"Βασικά φέτος νά μη τά έπανθλεύουμε ήδη λουπεί την διακρίσιμη μας.

Σχετικά με την Γ' κατηγορία δι ήτησες τον κυανοάστικον ματσέτον Τζέρι Αμανατίδης δι μέρος μας είναι: - Δέν νομίζεις νά είναι οδοκολού κατηγορίας έβαλ καί κατέληπη προσοχή.

Πέρυσι ήδης κερδίσαμε δύο τα ντέρμπια καί καρέκλας βαθύμος στον πελεκτισμόν.

"Όπως μέρις είπε δι τεχνικός μας τη θέση τού Ανδριάντη πού δέσμοι πού δέσμοι πού δέσμοι.

ΣΥΝΕΚΙΖΕΤΑΙ ΤΟ ΜΙΑΦΑΔΟ ΚΑΙ

Εμμένα συνεκίζονται οι δύναμες τού Μπάσκο Κάι ή της ένασης συναυτήσεις:

ΜΟΡΤΟΥΖΑ ΣΑΛΑΚΟΣ - ΠΑΝΑΓΙΩΤΗΣ 7.15 μ.μ.

ΤΖ. ΚΡΟΣ - ΜΗΣΟΣ ΧΙΑ

Την Παρασκευή 7/2 παίζουν:

ΕΛΛΑΣ - ΓΚΡΙΝ ΙΓΚΛΑΥ 7.15 μ.μ.

ΠΡΕΤΟΝ - ΤΖΑΣΤ

Το Σάββατο 8/2 έγγυεςνται:



ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΣ - ΕΡΟΥΝΤΟΝ 7.15 μ.μ.

ΠΙΟΥΒΕΝΤΟΥΖ - ΚΡΟΑΤΙΑ

ΟΙ ΜΙΚΡΟΙ ΤΟΥ ΜΕΓΑ

Κάθε Τρίτη καί Πέμπτη στο γήπεδο τού Καΐν Τελέφρου πού ήδη στο έπανθλον.

"Όλοι οι καινούργιοι πάτητες είναι σύροι σερβέτοι στο σύλλογο.

KΩΦΗΑΝΤ ΣΙΤΥ

Τακτικές προπονήσεις κάνει το Κώφηαντ Σίτυ ήδη ήδη την Τρίτη καί Πέμπτη.

"Όπως μάς είπε δι προπονήσεις Τάκης Εθγγαγός δι χρειάστηκε τον έπανθλον δύο πάτητες προκατέμενοι δι δύο πάτητες στον ίδιον οπίγραφο τού Στέργη Αγρικ.

ΚΑΙΦΟΤΟΝ ΧΙΑ

Το Καϊτρόν ΧΙΑ προπονείται ήδη Τρίτη Τετάρτη καί Πέμπτη στο γήπεδο του ήδη στο έπανθλον.

"Όσοι ήδη πάτητες ήδησουν νά προπονηθούν με τον σύλλογο είναι εύπροσδεκτοι καί νά έπιπτουν τον Γενικό δρόμη Φιλιππαί Αγριούλα.

"Επίσης ήδησυνται προπονήτες για την διάσημης την έπανθλο.

ΕΠΙΣΤΑΙΑ ΤΙΜΕΣ Ο ΕΝΤΟ

Ο γηνστός προκοπής ήδησυνται ήδησυνται κατάστημα διάληπτων ήδησουν στο 66 BRIDGE RD, RICHMOND καί είναι στη διάθεση δύο πάτητον τον Σεπτέμβρη τον Γενικό δρόμη Φιλιππαί Αγριούλα.

Το τηλεφωνού του είναι 429 3079.

ΙΓΚΡΑΝΤ ΣΙΤΥ

Σε λίγες μέρες ήδη γίνεται συγκέντρωση των πάτητον τού Μάρτρεντ ήδη στον ήδησον τον πατούν πάτητον προκατέμενον νά ήδησουν νά έπιπτουν καί νά σπεσιαλ τιμές.

Το τηλεφωνού του είναι 429 3079.

Mladost je zadzrala siedele igre iz prošle sezone: Slobodan Bozinovski i Vladislav Mitrovic na golu, Novica Ajder, Kire Ljavcanski, Danice Smurgojki, Mirko Becker, Tome Dimovski, Cane Boscevski, Zarko Stefanovic, Mija Presljak, Srboslav Anicic, Tom Sivkarovski, Davor Belak, Branko Nalovski, Miroslav Matkovic, Niko Krstic, Boris Sribinovski, Cane Tomicjovski, Predrag Capucakovic, Drisko Atanasovski, Nedeljko Mudrinic, Ivan Pilt, Sasa Sijacic, Terry Ardelen, Jovan Sretenovic, Ivana Pitra, Gine Lazoski, Zoran Kmitovic.

U "Mladost" su dosli siedeli novi igrači: Slobodan Dimovski iz EastGelona, Makedonjen, Ranko Lavinjus iz Crvene zvezde, Jimmy Dimitrius iz Hawortha i Bozinovski iz George Crossa. Ocekuje se da pristupi joj nekoliko igrača do početka nove sezone u subotu 22. marta.

In "Mladost" je otisao do sad jedino golman Milutin Ciric, koji je već sedeo na klupi rezerve igre Western Suburbia prošle subote na Olympic Parku.

Tokom ovog meseca "Mladost" će održati svoj Fudbalski turnir, koji je poslednji put osvojio JUST.

Nogometni trener dobio je i Royal Richmond SINDJE-LIC. Na celu strucno staba nalazi se Milenko Ruzmir, koji je trenirao nekoliko nasih klubova, među njima i prvi tim JUST-a "Sindje". Trenirajući je u ceterkom i cetvrtkom od 7 uveče na Burnley Ovalu u Richmondu.

Na Burnley Ovalu, ali pondeljkom i sredom uveče trenira Richmond United/BOSNA, koja se ove godine takmiciti u trecoj provizionalnoj divizi.

KVALIFIKOVANI TRENER

Mnogi nasi, ali i drugi klubovi traju za dobrim trenerom. Obaveštene smo da je Rad Jovicić bio igrač JUST-a i nekoliko beogradskih klubova, koji je prešao u fudbalsku akademiju za profesionalne igrače. Sredinom decembra je izjavio da se vratiti u fudbalsku akademiju.

Williamston/MLAODOST je angazovala Milos Adamicu sa trenerom, koji je poceo sa sistematiskim pripremama 14. januara.

PROVIZIKA JUNIORA

Danas, u sredu 5. februara sastaju se prvi put u novoj sezoni juniori JUST-a svih godista na igralistu Footscray, Schintler Reserve, gde će se upoznati sa planom pripreme do pocetka sezone. U isto vreme se vrsi upis novih juniora, od 9 do 16 godina. Juniorski skup pocinje u 5 po podne.

Scott still is on the outer

Scott Patterson, 23, trasfer-listed by Heidelberg-Alexander, is keen to join another club.

So too is midfielder Mike Valentine, his former Box Hill team-mate who also is on the outer at Heidelberg.

Both have had run-ins with Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey.

Their \$15,000 transfer fees should be seen, realistically, as a starting point for bargaining. Obviously, that price will come down.

"It's a ridiculous price but I'm sure Heidelberg will make a deal, otherwise, I'll have to go to the appeals board about it," Patterson said this week.

"I'm keen to get a new club because I want to get back into action and prove myself."

Heidelberg bought Patterson from Box Hill for \$5000, after he had represented Victoria against Watford in 1982.

Playing mainly on the left flank, Patterson has scored 12 NSL and two National Cup goals for Heidelberg. Valentine has scored 12 NSL goals and four in the National Cup.

Patterson can be contacted on (03) 809 7768 (home) or (03) 873

Iraklis wants Tasios

From page one

was the better part of valor. "United was leading 1-0 and then Molby of Liverpool ran almost the length of the field and scored. I got up and cheered, but with all the United supporters behind me, I quickly sat down again," he says.

The supporters of the away team are now required to stay in the ground for about half an hour, while the home supporters leave. It is a measure designed to avoid fighting.

Tasios reckons he had at least something to do with United's 1-1 draw with Watford.

"Alan Brazil was warming up in the tunnel, waiting to come on as a sub," he recalls. "I encouraged him, saying 'Don't worry, you'll be OK. Don't be nervous. You'll score.'

"Imagine it, here's me, a young nobody from Australia, encouraging Alan Brazil. Well, it worked. Two minutes after coming on, he scored a goal to put United one up, but Watford scored later, to make it 1-1. There was talk at the time that Brazil was leaving soon — probably to join Sunderland. There was also talk that Mark Hughes would be going to Barcelona."

Tasios spoke to Gordon Strachan the day after Scotland's 2-0 victory over Australia in Glasgow. Strachan disagreed with the

opinion that their tackles were no worse than clumsy, because the players weren't used to the fast pace of the game.

"I watched the return game in Melbourne, live in Leicester, and I thought we should have won. They all liked Ken Murphy in that game, and Jimmy Patikas, too," Tasios said.

Crowds are down in England. "Although United still has its 40,000 gates, Leicester is averaging about 8000, and clubs like Birmingham, Ipswich and West Brom are well below the 8000-mark," Tasios says.

Admission charges are between \$5 and \$8, while in Mel-

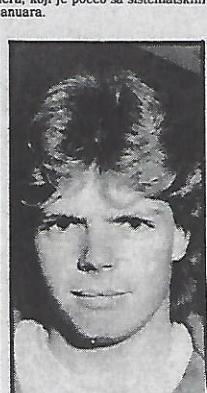
bourne it's \$6 for the Buffalo Cup!

Crowds in Greece, meanwhile, are among the highest in Europe, with some 20,000 spectators per game.

"I saw Jim Patikas on TV a few times," Tasios says. "His third game for AEK, against PAOK, he was named AEK's best player, and he's getting a lot of publicity."

"However, Peter Katholos isn't doing well with Larissa. He isn't even on the bench at the moment."

"Panathinaikos has bought all the top players, and you get the impression they could beat anyone by 10 goals if they really tried, but they tend to slacken off when they get ahead, and just muck around. But they could win the Greek champi-



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SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS vs BOX HILL

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SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS vs GREEN GULLY

at 7.15pm

PRESTON MAKEDONIA vs
FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. at 8.40pm



SEAN LANE

SATURDAY 8th FEBRUARY

HEIDELBERG UTD ALEXANDER vs
CROYDON CITY

at 7.15pm

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS vs
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